

Branch Offices:—LONDON, 168, STRAND, NICE, 15, QUAI MASSÉNA.

PARIS : PRICE 40 CENTIMES
OUT OF PARIS: 45 CENTIMES

LONDON, NOVEMBER 29—30, 1882.

THE COST OF THE EGYPTIAN WAR.

M. DE GIERS'S JOURNEY.

M. GAMBETTA

DUBLIN DETECTIVES.

ENGLAND AND EGYPT.

MADAGASCAR

In the House of Commons on Wedne

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NE

On Wednesday a meeting of gentle

THE "AJAX" AT CAMBRIDGE.

Ajax . . . Mr. J. K. Stephen, King

Odysseus . . . Mr. J. H. White-Thomson
Teucer . . . Mr. H. J. C. Clust, Trinity
Agamemnon . . . Mr. H. J. Ford, Clare College
Menelaos . . . Mr. E. Impey, King's College
Paris . . . Mr. F. Pryor, Trinity College
Messenger . . . Mr. A. Hamilton Smith, Trinity
Athene . . . Mr. E. A. Gardner, Caius
Tecnessa . . . Mr. A. R. Macklin, Caius College

Chorus of Salaminian Sailors.

No pains have been spared to render accessories worthy of the piece itself. What the spectator was gazing on the very attractive production and scenery, painted from the original author by Mr. J. G. Bonington, assisting to Professor Macfarlane's beautiful music, written to accompany the movements, both eye and ear were satisfied and imagination flew back to the first time when this very same play was exhibited, two thousand two hundred years ago under the 'cave' of the Acropolis, where the gaslights and the black coats of the audience and the roof over our heads, and we are sitting, instead, amid a crowd of curious spectacle-loving Greeks, with sandals on the feet and the "chlamys" round their shoulders, who, in the intervals of the dramatic action, about the revered national hero who is being represented on the stage, are talking the last news from Samos, where Pericles is fighting, or how jealous the Spartans are of the beautiful statue of Athena just erected on the Akropolis. We are on stone seats, under the open sky, on the southern slope of the Akropolis, in the interval between the Dædalus and the Hercules, on the left hand rise the pillars and porticoes of the Odeum, while in front of our feet, is seen the splendid temple of Olympian Zeus, and the winding thread of the Ilissus, while beyond is "Hymettus as the purple sea." Who can wonder that such magnificent additions attract at the theatre as well to an ancient Greek, an integral part of his life and his duty as a good citizen.—*Daily Telegraph.*

THE PRIMATE.—Dr. Alfred Carpenter has the following bulletin on Wednesday morning:—"There has been no material change since yesterday in the Archbishop's condition."

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FRANCE AND ENGLAND IN
MADAGASCAR.

The *Spectator's* counsels Englishmen not to be too much disheartened either by the fresh outrages in Ireland, or by Michael Davitt's attempts for a new agitation against rent, are far from proving that remedial legislation has failed, they show that it has, in great measure, succeeded. The agrarian agitation, which was always the most formidable of the difficulties, both because it was partly just and because it arose from the true economic difficulty of Ireland—the incompatibility of the English tenure with the circumstances of a poor and agricultural country—has within the last

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—The official duties of members elected to serve on the London School Board was fulfilled by the education Department, at Whitehall, to the clerk of the Board, Mr. Crowd, on Wednesday afternoon. The Board is composed of eleven ladies and forty-six gentlemen, the latter comprising one knight (right hon.), one duke, two marquesses, three earls, four barons, twenty-eight knights, five lords of parliament, twelve retired naval men (barristers, solicitors, etc.), and six retired gentry, six merchants and manufacturers, eleven ministers of religion, and no working men. Of the original members of the Board there are five left on the present Board—namely, 3 Lord E. Buxton, Mr. G. J. Peckham, Benjamin Disraeli, John Lubbock, and Sir Edmund A. Currie. Of these five, three of them represent the division of the Tower Hamlets. Of the last board, there were thirty-one members re-elected; seven, who offered themselves for re-election, defeated; and two retired, whose names are twice—on entirely new members—the new Board, and one who, though an original member, was not on the last Board. There are two Roman Catholics on this, as on the last Board.

Thursday, St. Andrew's day, the Scotch representative met, and as usual dined. They celebrated the liberality of educated Scotchmen in inviting Sir William Vernon Harcourt to preside over cocky-leeky and other delicacies.

William Harcourt is an after-dinner speaker of golden mouth; and though he is not a Scotchman, he is a Scotchman in heart, was too hopelessly southern to allow of making the claim—his eloquence was to give his friends due meed for their hospitality. The only danger is lest his presence on a festive occasion should make the Scotch patriots feel that they are not Scotchmen. The patriotism of certain Scotchmen who cannot get away from Scotland is to be a little acrimonious. Edinburgh of late been supplied with a good deal of patriotic writing, which her citizens probably do not allow to interfere with their other pleasures. The Scotch who are proud of his country, where, as Sir William Harcourt testifies, all the ladies are young, and the men are well-do-do, would deserve all Sir Walter says of him, if he existed there. But, as in the case of the assassin in the Scotch Whig, the Hollander, Sir Harcourt would not reply *ad mentes*, natives of mountainous countries are patriotic. There is something in their own country for memory and imagination to lay hold of and cherish. One sees less in the escape for a native of Huntingdonshire to live in a foreign land, than in the case of the Russian peasant will emigrate because as you please by land, because one can, one corn field, one pine wood is excellent. He may be fond of his country, but he knows one home to be just as good as another. The Scotchman, however, is a Russian Empire. Now every Scotch likes down loch, glen, ben, knowe, or burn best, and plenty of character to his land, and plenty of character too has the country of straths, and hopes, and bens. Then, a little nation's children cling together to their native land, and their native land Scotch have, by virtue of their long attachment to England, and of Sir Walter Scott's novels and poems, become a sort of nationality. On this side the Highland people are of course chiefly English in their feelings, and in their speech, and in their dialect, and their spoken dialect is a form of old English. North of the Highland line live the Gaels, the descendants of the Highland Host. These were the natural enemies of the Lowland Scotch till very recent days. Even now a Lowland shepherd on a Highland farm has a grudge against him, and in the words of the poet, "I'm a Rothsay man, a poor fellow, once on being saluted as a 'Highland man' by an imperious Lowlander. The old hatred of the Scotch in the south—kindled by blood and speech, though not by historical associations and the cells in the prison, and the soldiers on Balaclava and elsewhere, all men born north of the Tweed are Scotch (or, as some of them prefer to say, British), and a Scot with a Norman or English name recognises a McKid or McTavish as a brother. Many clans have transferred their Celtic Gaelic names, and the English person may be a Celt, though the Englishman might not suspect it. Thus Scotch Highland blood and Scotch of Celtic blood have become fused in a sort of nationality, and Sir Walter Scott's writings did a great deal to bring

HALF-PAST FOUR.
There is no perceptible change in the condition of the Archbishop this afternoon. Since mid-day he has slept comfortably, and the doctor has now left for a short time, but will return this evening.

A POLICEMAN MURDERED AT DALSTON.
A policeman named George Cole was shot at Dalston on Friday night. It is stated that while on duty towards midnight in Ashwin-
cet he saw a man loitering alone in a sus-
picious manner. He went up to question
him, whereupon the man shot him with a re-
volver. Hearing the report of firearms two
policemen went to the spot, and found Cole
lying insensible and bleeding in the road.
They removed him to the station, when he
was at once taken to the German Hospital.

THE ILLNESS OF MR. FAWCETT.—Dr. Annew Clarke visited Mr. Fawcett on Friday forenoon and remained in consultation nearly an hour with Drs. Wright, J. Ford Anderson, and E. E. Egan, and the following bulletin was issued:—"Mr. Fawcett is suffering from an attack of diphtheria; the attack is severe but is holding his ground well." Drs. E. Wright and J. Ford Anderson, and Mrs. E. Anderson, remained in consultation on Saturday morning, and at nine o'clock issued the following bulletin:—"Mr. Fawcett has passed a restless night, and his condition is not so satisfactory." Numerous inquiries have been made both personally and otherwise regarding the condition of the patient, among those who are anxious to learn his state of health being Mr. H. G. Hays, Mr. Earl Granville, Mr. H. Holmes, Mr. Sir William Harcourt, and Mr. Glavin.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 3-4, 1882.

THE SENTENCE ON ARABI.

At nine o'clock on Sunday morning Arabi was brought before a Court-martial, mainly composed of men who a few weeks since were his very obedient servants. Being charged, under Ottoman law, with having led more than eight persons to revolt, and with refusal to disband his forces when commanded to do so, he pleaded guilty, and the Court at once adjourned to eat its luncheon and discuss its sentence. After an interval sufficiently long to suggest deliberation, it reassembled, and pronounced with one voice that Arabi must be condemned to death; but, before the doom could have time to shock any of his audience, the President read, from the same document as that which contained the sentence, a decree of the Khedive declaring that, "for personal reasons," he should exercise his right of clemency, and that Ahmed Arabi must be banished. We have thus adroitly, and with as much conservation of dignity as was possible under the circumstances, been extricated from a position of some difficulty to which hasty and ill-considered action had committed us. The discredit of the situation was brought upon us by the Government; the credit of having found a way out of it, and of having contrived that there should be no unpleasantness, must rest with Lord Dufferin. Of all those good-tempered acquiescence in the arrangement was desired, only one proved recalcitrant. Borelli Bey, who was conducting the prosecution, indignantly withdrew from it, declaring the proceedings to be a complete farce. Farce or no farce, the performance passed off without a hitch and without laughter, though our correspondent tells us that pleasant smiles lighted up the usually stern countenance of the culprit. Our own Government, as well as that of the Khedive, have every reason to be thankful at the turn things have taken. Nor can the country feel anything but satisfaction at the result. The trial might as easily have lasted five weeks as five minutes, but the only difference in the result would have been the blackening of a few reputations already sufficiently shady, and the public disclosure of transactions which are even now no secret, but of which it is not convenient to take notice.—Standard.

The Daily News says:—"The problem of 'Ahmed Arabi,' the Egyptian, and what to do with him," has been solved in the manner which our recent telegrams from Egypt have foreshadowed, and in accordance with the suggestions which we have consistently made. He is to be exiled from Egypt as a person politically dangerous. If this step had been taken immediately on his surrender much time and trouble, and some future complications, would have been spared. There has been the form of an arraignment; Arabi has gone through the form of pleading guilty to the charge of rebellion; and the Court has gone through the form of sentencing him to death. The only real thing in the business is the Khedive's commutation of the sentence into banishment for life. This sensible conclusion of the matter is probably due to the presence of Lord Dufferin, and his faculty of penetrating into and acting upon the real facts and necessities of a situation to which routine diplomacy and officialism are blind.

THE CUBAN REFUGEES.

The report of the Committee charged with the investigation of the circumstances under which the Cuban refugees were surrendered to the Colonial Office, and Lord Kimberley has lost no time in telegraphing the decision of the Government. From the first it was plain that some of the Gibraltar officials had exceeded their authority, and the chief task of the Committee of Inquiry resolved itself into discovering who those officials were, and what amount of responsibility attached to each. The conclusions of the Committee may be inferred from the terms of Lord Kimberley's telegram. The Colonial Secretary and the Chief Inspector of Police are informed as courteously as circumstances permit that they are dismissed from their offices. The Acting Police Magistrate, another official involved in this unfortunate affair, escapes with a severe censure, the ground for this leniency being that at the time he was not discharging his regular duties—those of Captain of the Port. General Baynes and Chief Inspector Blair, who are thus removed from their posts, are, perhaps, not so much culpable as unfortunate. Any one out of many contingencies would have saved them from the possibility of a mistake. But when all is said in extenuation of their conduct, the fact remains that they exceeded their duty; and, seeing that no slight mortification has flowed from their transgression, it was inevitable that they should be made to suffer. Unfortunately, the cashiering of an official or two leaves England as regards Spain in no better position than before. Only two facts have come to light which could by any possibility be construed to give us the right of demanding the surrender of the Cubans. First, the Spaniards, when they made their request, carefully concealed the fact that the convicts of whom they spoke were political convicts. Secondly, the Spanish police arrested Macao and the other refugees in the neutral territory. But any claim based upon these grounds appears shadowy. The Spanish Consul

was guilty of a *supplicatio veri*, but certainly of no such breach of faith as constitutes an offence against international law. The "comity of nations" is a convenient term for any courteous usage which is not strict matter of so-called international law; but it can hardly be said that there are precedents of custom establishing that a State making a request should point out all the reasons why such a request should not be granted. Even the internal laws of a State do not compel a man to disclose the defects of the article he wishes to sell. That is left to the other party to the bargain; and in the external realm of international law or international courtesy such a rule could still less be expected to be maintained. The utmost that could be said is that, in the opinion of Englishmen, Spain has not acted with perfect integrity; and there, we fear, the matter must rest. Nor can any flaw in the title of the Spaniards to keep possession of the refugees be detected in the fact that they were arrested in the neutral territory. This territory is only neutral in the sense that it belongs neither to Spain nor to Great Britain; and it may be assumed that no arrangement, express or tacit, exists forbidding the doing of acts there which are not illegal. It would be very desirable that the Spanish Government should reconsider their decision not to replace the Cubans in the same position in which they were before they were virtually exiled. But in this expression of opinion, Englishmen must swallow their chagrin as best they may. The surrender was the act of our own officials, and it was perfectly valid as regards every one but ourselves. That a political refugee should be thus tamely surrendered is, perhaps, more mortifying to Englishmen than it would have been to any other nation. It is totally at variance with their traditions of liberty and neutrality. But goodness and loftiness of intention are no excuse for hotly pressing demands which do not accord with generally accepted principles of law.—Times.

ENGLAND AND THE MALAGASY QUESTION.

The motives of the distinguished Englishmen who have lately taken Madagascar under their protection are, no doubt, altogether commendable, but we cannot help thinking that the course of action they have adopted is not only unwise but actually mischievous. Their own statement of the case is delightful in its simplicity. They plead that France is not dealing fairly with the Malagasy, and, therefore, that it is right and proper that we should take these wronged barbarians under our wing. The assumptions concealed beneath this statement are, it must be owned, considerable. Accepting for the moment the hypothesis that the French proposals are wholly unjustifiable, our right of interference is, as one would have thought, not a thing to be assumed altogether without proof. Such a right presupposes something like an authority to act as police throughout the world, somewhat similar to the roving commission which Arthur conferred on the Knights of the Round Table. To ride abroad redressing human wrongs is, indeed, a very fine-sounding thing, but even in the case we have quoted the final outcome of the society established for the purpose was not specially satisfactory. England has no such commission that we are aware of, and to act as though we had is to expose ourselves at once to the charge of fraudulent pretence. No doubt it would be a happy day for the world at large if a power in whose integrity, virtue, and unselfishness all peoples could place unbounded confidence were, on the flat of some authority which they would all respect, to undertake these high semi-imperial duties. The idea has in fact pressed so forcibly on the imagination of some historians that they have described the reigns of Trojan and the two Antonines, when some such influence was brought into play over a large part of Europe and a small part of Asia and Africa, as "the happiest period in the world's history." But there is another side even to that picture, and the Christian annals of this "happiest period" throw a doubt on its practicability even under the most favourable conditions. In the present instance we may admit that we look in vain for any reason to suppose that we are the embodiment of the virtues that alone could make us fit to be trusted with such a high commission. At any rate the nation with which we have specially to do does not look upon Englishmen in general or the deputations introduced by Mr. Forster in particular as representing quite all the integrity, virtue, and unselfishness required. It is quite certain, too, that Frenchmen are not conscious of having empowered us to keep them from straying from the paths of rectitude, and, indeed, they have the bad taste to see in us, and to tell us that they see in us, more traces of the Tartuffe than the Marcus Aurelius. The French are not good colonists it is true, for every Frenchman from the day when he lands in a foreign settlement is, in his secret heart, making efforts to return to France. Still, although not identifying themselves with the country of their temporary adoption as Englishmen have done, they do introduce civilisation among native races. They are not as just, perhaps, as we are in dealing with the natives, but they are more amiable, and exhibit greater tact in certain departments of management. There is no reason to suppose that Madagascar, if annexed bodily by France, would, either for purposes of trade or travel, be less available to England or England's colonies. The exact opposite of this result is, indeed, probable. Neither are we greatly exercised by the assurance that the work of the Protestant missionaries would be unimpeded or unimpeded by the emissaries of Catholicism, for it is not unreasonable to suppose that the religion of the greater numbers of the Malagasy population might be exchanged for any form of Christianity with advantage, and the system which brings about the desired end most quickly is likely to be least injurious to the natives, and not the least beneficial in their intercourse with foreigners. France at the present moment is burning to undertake the ungrateful and expensive task of substituting something like civilisation in the place of barbarism, and although she has gone about it in a rather truculent way at the outset, and insisted on her rights in a high-handed manner, it would be preposterous for us to interpose with the view of avoiding a result which will probably be beneficial, and of which we, with the rest of the world, should reap the fruits. With the inducements to that work which the French Government find

we have nothing to do. Whether it be to make themselves popular with the proletariat, or the army, or the navy, or the Catholic missionaries, it is all the same to us. France is taking up similar adventures of this sort in Cochinchina and in Central Africa, and has within the last few days actually accepted in the pestilential plains of Central Africa a vast cession of territory dubiously obtained by a French midshipman from a negro chief. If she desires to introduce reasonableness into Dalmatian, or sweetness and light in the Niger watershed, it is her affair and not ours. Whatever we may think of the wisdom of the acquiring those opportunities for the waste of blood and treasure, it is plain that we have neither right to interfere nor interest in interfering. We can, therefore, only hope that the unreasonable question in England over this Malagasy matter may quickly cease, for whatever may come of it, its continuance will not endure to the dignity or advantage of England, or, we may add, of Madagascar.—Observer.

THE GRAND COMMITTEES.

The Spectator says:—"There will be much jealousy in the House of the proceedings of these Grand Committees. And the fear is that these jealousies will lead to even longer wrangles after the committees have sat than there would have been any occasion for had the Committees never sat at all. It seems to us nearly certain that a great many able lawyers eager for political distinction, and a great many able commercial men who have their own views on commercial matters, will be unable to devote the hours requisite to these Committees; and that where all are present, the proceedings will be marked by an adverse decision by such Committees in their absence, and will desire to rehearse to the House at length their grievances and their counsels. If that should be so, the Grand Committees will hardly bring about the economy of time for which Mr. Gladstone hoped. 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PARIS, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1882.

with it, because I know my misfortunes have been the means of securing for Egypt the liberty and prosperity which it deserves to enjoy. When England has carried out her good work she will, I feel certain, in her humanity and high sense of justice, permit me to go back to my country, and to leave to my own eyes the result of her humane and civilising work before I die. I am grateful to Mr. Gladstone and to Lord Granville for their interposition on my behalf; and for having saved me from so perilous a situation. I will not, self at the head of a people who wanted nothing but justice. I also thank Lord Dufferin and Sir Edward Malet for the kindness and generosity they have shown me. I also owe a debt of gratitude, and I am sure they will not refuse to clear my friend Mr. Blunt from any charge, to the noble lords and ladies who spared neither his efforts nor his money to assist me in the hour of distress and need; when my Egyptian friends of happier days had one and all forsaken me. I can now assure you that I have not been able to sustain my efforts, and the zeal, loyalty, and devotion of Mr. Broasley and Mr. Napier on my behalf, and on behalf of my fellow prisoners. I thank the British people, as I thank you, Sir, and the great English nation, for their noble and generous feelings, that I should have a fair trial. I thank those members of the British Parliament who have often and nobly spoken on my behalf, and I thank Sir Charles Wilson for the kind and vigilant care he has bestowed on me in the day of my misfortune. I thank the Egyptian people with the firm conviction that, as days pass by, the justice of our cause will become more and more apparent, and that England will never have cause to repent of the generosity she has shown to me. I played my part as a man against whom she has fought,—AHMED KRAHI, the Egyptian.

worth fighting against. The Egyptian army was well-found in all appliances of warfare that were essential to success. It had a fine artillery—indeed, the guns were the same as had been used by us. I could not say the same of the cavalry, for our men generally saw their backs. (A laugh.) But with regard to their infantry, they were excellently drilled, disciplined, and armed; but their officers were badly educated, and untrustworthy in themselves. They were a very different class from the men themselves. But the Egyptians were pitted against an infantry the best in the world. (Cheers.) We had splendid soldiers commanded by splendid regimental officers. (Cheers.) He did not agree with me at all when I said that small taught us but little. He believed that from the small wars in which we had been engaged from time to time for the last twenty-five years we had gained great experience, and that we had good officers from the bad and to select the best men. How different was the information possessed by the officers who landed at Ismailia from that of the officers who landed in the Crimea. He was speaking in the plainest English. He was the speaker in the world, and he would say that the great superiority we had from first to last over the Egyptian artillery was this, that our guns when in action were enabled to overpower twice their weight of the Egyptian guns. Our most excellent shot-boats, the reason we defeated them was that while the Egyptians used the old-fashion'd common shell which they had obtained from Messrs. Krupp, we adopted the shrapnel shell. The Egyptian shells sank deep into the water, and exploded. That alone furnished a lesson which we ought to take to heart—namely, that no nation could afford to fall behind other nations in the inventions of the day.

THE LATE PRIMATE.

Besides the telegrams from the Queen and other members of the Royal family, messages of sympathy were received from England and abroad on Monday morning. In one delivery there were more than a hundred communications, including fifty telegrams—some from America and Australia, all couched in terms of earnest sympathy. The Archbishop's remains were interred in Addington Park, Surrey, where are now Crawford, and where Archbishops Sutton, Sumner, and Longley also lie, the family having decided to decline respectfully the offer of a tomb in Westminster Abbey, which it may be thought would have been on the ground of deference to the wish of the deceased Primate. The inscription on the coffin is "Archibald Campbell Tait, Archbishop of Canterbury. Born 21st December, 1811; died 3rd December, 1882." The funeral will take place on Friday next, at 12.30. Friends who desire to communicate at the burial, or to be present, should communicate at T. Davidson, Addington Park, Croydon. Tickets admitting to the church and churchyard will be issued as far as the very limited accommodation admits of, on Thursday. The service will be of the same personal friendship or of official position. Addington-park is distant three and a half miles from East Croydon Station, and particulars as to trains and other arrangements will be made public to-morrow or on Thursday. The service will be on the same day as the funeral. There will be no lying-in-state, and the funeral will be as simple as possible, in accordance with the wish of the deceased and his friends. The body, which was placed in a leaden shell on Monday evening, will be taken to Addington Park by a hand-bier used at former burials at Addington Church.

such as infanticide, and other cognate offences arising from the same state of mind, and highly-disturbed and dangerous condition of society—retain the same place in the calendar. There is, however, some small diminution that may be inconsiderable in other respects, but may be sufficient to show that the force of crime has been arrested at a point, and that we know how to deal with the large amount of undetected crime that these returns exhibit, because the number of offences in which the parties have been made amenable to justice form a most inconsiderable proportion of the crime committed. But even in that case, I think I am justified in saying that the evil is not cured. For, in former times, and it may be that a greater disposition exists to facilitate the operation of the law and to assist in the discovery of crime. I do not think it can be said that, with one exception, the law exceeds the ordinary amount of crime, or, with another, that the crime, or, more usually expected to occur in this city. I say with one exception, because that exception is a most grave and conspicuous one. I allude to the case in which a man named Delaney is charged with an attempt to take away the life of Mr. Justice. If the charge is proved, the law is established. If the evidence, you will probably consider it your duty not to interfere with the discretion of the law advisers of the Crown in reference to the form or the different forms in which the charge has been laid. Undoubtedly, as in the case of the other offences of the Dublin, the cases to be submitted to you do not represent the entire extent and actual amount of crime committed, for we cannot close our eyes to the fact that rapidly succeeding the event to which I have referred is the attempt to commit the same. Other instances of the gravest and most serious character have occurred in this city. Crimes have been committed of the most startling and appalling nature. In one of those cases an officer of the law—a fine young man, advancing boldly to the discharge of his duty—has been assailed in the public street; in another instance a respectable citizen of this capital, who had performed the duty of a Juror at the last Commission, has his life openly assailed in the most dreadful manner, and that life is still in the balance. In this kind of offence the community is concerned, and I need not say, a situation of extreme gravity, and one that requires all the force and strength of the law, all the vigilance of authority, all the combination of well-disposed and law-abiding citizens, to cope with the evil. Meanwhile this unhappy state of things is upon the fortunes of this capital. It is but too evident, too fatally evident, that decay is silently but speedily invading every interest which depends upon the prosperity of this city. Trade languishes, if it is not nearly extinct. Houses are being sold at a loss, and their fortunes elsewhere are fleeing from it as from a place infested by the plague, and destitution is settling down steadily and surely upon the humbler classes of the population, and upon all those who depend for their employment for their daily bread. I need not express any will terminate, or as to when the clouds will be dispersed and the sun come out again, because, unfortunately, such hopes, too often expressed, have been too often rapidly and rudely dispelled. But I have a great deal of hope for Ireland, and for improvement rests entirely and alone upon the due and firm execution of the law.

It is understood that a Commission, consisting of three Judges, will sit within the next few days at the residence of the three members, Messrs. Cox, Dowling, and the murdered man's father, at the residence of (constable Cox in Abbey-street. This will be the first occasion on which the provisions of the Crimes Act dispensing with the service of jury will be put into operation. A strange occurrence near Doon, in this county, were reported to Limerick on Monday. A party of police returning to barracks met some persons driving in a cart, and were going to the barracks. One of the persons offered a seat on the cart. The offer was accepted, but when the police reached barracks it was discovered that one of the persons was armed with a rifle. If not two of their rifles were missing. The police immediately searched the farmer on the cart, and found that he was in possession of having stolen the firearms, and the farmer charged the police with assault, with the result that the matter is said to have been referred to the authorities and a magisterial investigation is going on.

A large meeting of farmers resident in the eastern portion of the county was held at Limerick on Monday, when resolutions were adopted to the effect that they would allow only one representative to be elected to the county council. It is stated that the circular convening the meeting had over three hundred signatures.

OPENING OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF
JUSTICE.

The Royal Courts of Justice were formally opened by the Queen on Monday, in the presence of a large and distinguished company. The fogs of last week and the dismal weather which prevailed on Sunday gave an unpleasant foreboding to the atmosphere of the occasion under which the ceremonial would take place. Happily, the spell of bad weather exhausted itself during Sunday night, and Monday morning broke with a comparatively clear sky and a cold and bracing air. From an early hour workmen were employed in completing the decorations in the vicinity of the Strand, and in the Strand; and a long time before the procession was due every point of advantage along the route to be taken by the Queen in her journey from Paddington Railway Station to the Royal Courts of Justice was taken possession of by the spectators. A most admirable arrangement had been made for the comfort and convenience of those who assembled to meet the Queen and take part in the procession. No attempt at decoration was made at that point, however, nor were many flags seen. A Pull-man was reached in the afternoon, and the Queen, in a liberal display of benevolence while along the Strand there was a concentration of flags, banners, and mottoes, which gave the street an exceedingly gay appearance. Stands for the accommodation of spectators were erected during the week, and the commanding position of the Strand, and the thoroughfare early occupied. A pavilion at the entrance leading to the quadrangle of the Courts extended across the footway into the road, westward of the City boundary, which was marked by a trophy spanning the thoroughfare at the point where the Strand becomes Fleet-street. The inscription ran thus: "Municipal government—Its uses without abuses;" and on the western side was the motto, in reference to the great object of the courts, "Let right be done." Soon after ten o'clock the troops selected to line the route taken by the Queen were ordered out to their positions, and the meantime numerous carriages set down at the various entrances to the Courts the persons privileged to be present at the ceremonial.

The ticket-holders were not allowed to arrive until the afternoon of the 14th, and the counsel learned that the law began to take their seats on the raised benches covered with a red cloth on either side of the hall. A considerable number of ladies were among the early arrivals, and their toilettes gave a variety and charm usually wanting to occasions when the legal element in full-bottomed wig is largely predominant. The band of the Queen's Grenadier Guards occupied a gallery over the main entrance to the hall, and played a number of lively selections which proved the admirable acoustic properties of the hall and relieved the tediousness of waiting. The Queen's counsel wore their dress wig, reaching low down over their side gowns, with knee breeches, black silk stockings, and dress shoes.

ARABI ON HIS SENTENCE.

We publish, says the *Times*, the most remarkable of the communications which Arabi Pacha has addressed to us. By an arrangement which had long been recommended in our columns and which Lord Dufferin, with the assent of the Queen's Government, induced the Egyptian authorities to adopt, Arabi was allowed to plead guilty to the offence of rebellion against the Khedive, and of thereby contravening certain articles of the Ottoman Military Code; the graver charges against him, relating to the massacre at Alexandria, being abandoned. His condemnation to death and the commutation of the sentence were told to the world on Monday. With extraordinary promptitude comes the appeal of the revolutionary chief, who accepts his new position, and, with a skill and plausibility which have never deserted him, attempts to make the best of it. He places himself under the protection of England, to whose conscience he throughout appeals, and in whose justice both to him and his country he asserts his full trust and confidence. He will cheerfully proceed to whatever spot England will be pleased to appoint as his residence. The abandonment of the charges of massacre and incendiarism has, he says, proved his innocence of them. But Arabi's political suggestions form the most interesting part of the letter. We may say that, though they seem to display a certain extemporaneousness, we believe them to be grounded in a conviction which possesses a multitude of the Egyptians. Arabi fought us, but now that we have beaten him, he has come to the conclusion that we are the only people at once strong enough and honest enough to do a good work in the country. England cannot delay the reforms which he and his struggled for, and among these the Anglo-French Control will be abolished, and "Egypt will be no more in the hands of a myriad of foreign employes, filling every available post to the exclusion of Egyptians." When England has given liberty and prosperity to the Egyptians, Arabi hopes that he may be allowed to revisit the country before he dies. He thinks those who have been considerate towards him, or have befriended him in his troubles, and expresses his confidence that England will "never have cause to repent of the generosity and humanity she has displayed towards a man against whom she has fought." It must certainly be admitted that this last communication of "Arabi the Egyptian" has much in it that is dignified and impressive.

ARCHBISHOP TAIT'S SUCCESSOR.

The death of the Archbishop of Canterbury has left a vacancy which it will be by no means easy to fill. Archbishop Tait created a reputation so high a standard of piety and policy that his successor cannot fall back into the habits of the easy-going Primates of older days without causing disappointment almost amounting to scandal. It will be expected of the new Archbishop of Canterbury that he shall possess not only piety, learning, and courtesy, but also something of that comprehensive tolerance and that liberal statesmanship which have for the last fourteen years drawn admiring attention to Lambeth. Though the choice of the Sovereign and the recommendation of the Prime Minister are technically unfettered, yet almost necessarily brings into view the occupants of the higher sees. The sees now entitled to precedence over the rest are, besides the Archbishop of York, the Bishops of London, Durham, and Winchester. The present Archbishop of York reached his lofty elevation with almost unexampled rapidity, but no one expects that Archbishop Thomson will receive any further ecclesiastical advancement. The Bishop of London, whose blameless life and orthodox principles are universally recognised, was born in the same year as the late Archbishop, and it cannot be supposed that Bishop Jackson would suddenly develop vigour and ascendancy of character, which were never among his leading characteristics. The Bishop of Winchester, whose age is also seventy-one, is of a general respect and affection. His learning is considerable, and his book on the Articles of Religion has become a standard work. As a Professor of Divinity at Cambridge, as Bishop of Ely, and as successor of Bishop Wilberforce at Winchester, Dr. Harold Browne has never made an enemy, and he has treated with equal justice and even courtesy all the conflicting parties in the Church. But his age may be held to unfit him for undertaking new and more arduous duties, while his moral virtues and mental endowments are not of the kind which Dr. Tait made so useful to the Church and to the country. If, however, the traditions of former days were followed, and the new Primate were chosen from among the men of letters, as was so often the case, much for positive good might be expected, in the absence of defects, there is no one whose name would excite less opposition than the Bishop of Winchester's. The Bishop of Durham is a man of different and of a higher stamp. As a classical scholar Bishop Lightfoot is inferior to very few living Englishmen. He is a preacher of great power, who, if not gifted with Canon Liddon's persuasive rhetoric or the eloquence of Peterborough's commanding elocution, abhors platitudes, delights in argument, and is always rational, solid, and impressive.

THE UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN
POLITICS.

For a country which congratulates itself, with good cause, on its massive isolation. Foreign questions, says the *Standard*, occupy a large share of attention in the President's Message to Congress. The United States has given such bold effect to the doctrine that all who dwell within its confines—Aborigines excepted—shall have full and equal rights, that it must, we suppose, be allowed the right of declaring who shall be admitted to be citizens or sojourners. The Chinese have been peremptorily excluded, and arrangements for carrying out the measure prohibiting yellow immigration have been, the President announces, completed. Whether this will lead to a diplomatic rupture with Peking is a question which, we believe, Celestial Statesmen are now considering. Mr. Blaine's pretentious policy of intervention and dominance in South America has been abandoned by the Executive and repudiated by public opinion. But the new United States Mission has been ever ready to offer the good offices of this Government as mediating between Chili and Peru, an offer which has been graciously availed of. The scheme of an International Peace Congress—in other words, of a Federation of South American States in subordination to the great power of the Northern Continent, is one which President Arthur justly remarks ought to result from the consideration of the national Representatives, not from the secret councils of the President. The prospect of a Commercial Treaty with Mexico says something for the improved condition of that country, but its conclusion may be the beginning of much closer relations with its neighbour. For Englishmen, the great "Dungeon Question"—the arrest of so-called American citizens in the Ireland—is of leading interest. What effect the temperate attitude of the Washington Cabinet in the matter may have had on the Irish vote in the recent Elections we cannot tell. It would probably, in any case, have gone Democratic. It is to be noted that the President appears to be satisfied with his own representations and with the reception the Cabinet of St. James accorded to them. The voluminous correspondence on the subject transmitted to Congress will probably wake the slumbering agitation. In connection with Foreign Policy it is worth remark that the Message recommends an improvement in the Navy, both as to ships and armament, and urges also an increase of the Army. Both branches of the Service have, in fact, been long far below the standard which the legitimate needs of the country demand.

NEWS FROM EGYPT.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Times* telegraphing on Monday says :—
I have received from Arabi Pasha an Arabic letter, which he has requested me to forward to London. The following is an accurate translation of it :—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES."

SIR,—I have followed the advice of your counsel, Messrs. Bradlaugh and Webb, sufficiently to express my acknowledgments, and have pleaded guilty to a charge of rebellion against the Khedive. The English Ministers have often proclaimed me to be a rebel, and I cannot deny it. They have also changed their opinion; nor, indeed, is it possible for them to do so at the present moment. I shall cheerfully proceed to any place which England may be pleased to appoint for my residence, and remain there until the day when it will be possible for me to modify my opinion concerning me. I do not complain of my fate, nor of the sentence which has been pronounced against me, and which, at any rate, establishes my innocence of the charges of massacre and rebellion. I have never taken any part in the slightest part, and which has been absolutely contrary to our political and religious principles. To know that my future treatment will depend on England and the generosity of the British people.

I have full confidence in the future, because I know that England cannot any longer delay the reforms which we have struggled for. In a short time the Anglo-Egyptian Control will be abolished; Egypt will be no more in the hands of a few Europeans, but will be filling every available post to the exclusion of the Egyptians; our native courts will be purified of abuses; codes of law will be enacted, and what is more important, carried out; a Chamber of Deputies will be elected, and will have a right of interference in the affairs of the Egyptian people; the swarm of usurers in the villages will be driven out. The English people, when they see all these things, will then be able to realise the fact that my sentence is a mere punishment, and that the son of an Egyptian fellah, I tried, to the best of my power, to secure all these good things for my dear country to which I belong, and which I love. My ill-fortune did not allow of my carrying out these reforms, and my sentence commenced. If England accomplishes this task, and thus really gives Egypt to the Egyptians, she will then make clear to the world the real aim and object of Anglo-Egyptian relations. I shall live with me, and with Egypt, the country I shall love for ever. I hope Egypt will not forget me, when England completes what I tried to begin. I say it again, I do not complain of my fate. I am even happy and contented.

THE SENTENCE ON ARABI.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Monday night :—
The proceedings of the Court-martial yesterday have produced here a profound sensation. In official circles, amongst Ministers themselves, though it is reported that Riaz has fallen ill from suppressed indignation, the prevalent feeling is one of relief that the dangerous question which threatened to block all progress in other vital matters has been finally removed.

Amongst the lower class natives the general impression is unquestionably satisfactory. There can be no doubt but that Arabi was accepted as the representative of a national movement, and that he was regarded as a genuine. Yesterday's sentence, saving him from the unconcealed vindictiveness of an alien Oligarchy, has done more than all proclamations and official assurances to show that the action of England has been inspired by a sense of justice and of sympathy towards Egypt and those who aspire to see the Egyptians a nation. I happened this morning to meet the son of one of the chief prisoners, and the boy's simple description of the joy and gratitude to England with which yesterday's glad tidings were received, and the confidence which the reports reaching me from all quarters, and leading to the belief that there is scarcely an Egyptian household in Cairo which does not share the same feeling.

Arabi himself, as I learn from Mr. Broadley, on returning to the country, was met by a crowd of his first kinsmen devoutly to thank the Almighty for the mercy which has delivered him out of the hands of his enemies, then, embracing his counsel, expressed to him in terms of deep and visible emotion his gratitude to England for the example he had displayed by his advocates, but for the loyal and generous treatment he had received at the hands of the British authorities and people. Fairness and justice are virtues so rare in the East that it is not at all surprising that Arabi should be so deeply and so gratefully moved to a direct interposition of Providence.

Amongst Anglo-Egyptians I must in fairness say the prevailing feelings are very different, and I hear language of condemnation so strong that those who utter it would be surprised to find that they are not alone in the sentiment. I have heard it so often reported. It must be remembered that many of them suffered personally through recent events, and this sense of injury must be pleaded as an explanation of their bitterness. Meanwhile, the fact that feeling is very strong among the English is quite noticeable.

Mr. Broadley declared that yesterday's decision was a deliberate sacrifice of justice to the exigencies of British Party politics. The British Government being resolved to save Arabi's life at all costs, insisted on the withdrawal of all criminal charges, on the ground that if they were not withdrawn, the prisoner could never have escaped the penalty of death.

This is not accurate. As a matter of fact, the prosecution was allowed complete liberty of almost amounting to unfair licence, in drawing up its case, and it was only after being advised by competent authorities that the evidence collected failed to support the case for the accusers that the British Government decided to bring influence to bear on the Egyptian Ministry to secure lenient treatment of a man whom it had become impossible to regard otherwise than as a purely political agent.

The Alexandria correspondent of the same paper says:—

The entire Christian population here is in a condition of the utmost indignation at England's interference in the trial of Arabi Pacha, whose guilt in connection with the massacre, burning, and pillage at Alexandria is regarded as being beyond doubt. This afternoon, it is the Rue des Sours, the scene of the butchery of the 11th of June, a native demonstration took place in honour of Arabi's victory. The presence of the Queen's uniform is now regarded as inevitable for years to come if the Christians are to be preserved from massacre and pillage.

LORD WOLSELEY ON THE EGYPTIAN
CAMPAIGN.

Lord Wolseley and other officers of the Egyptian Expedition were entertained at a dinner by Sir W. Armstrong and the Institute of Civil Engineers on Monday night:—

In replying to the toast of his health the gallant General said he begged in the name of his comrades who had recently returned from Egypt and in his own name to thank the company most heartily for the most generous and kind toast. He then had no claim to the gratitude of the English people except—solely that, to the best of their ability, they had done their duty to their Queen and country. (Cheers.) He and his comrades there were proud of the part they had taken in the recent campaign, but, personally, he did not wish to admit that he was one of the others not present worthy to share in the honour which had been done them that evening. In the recent campaign English soldiers, for the first time since the Crimea War, had encountered a regular army. They had since the war with Russia encountered the Zulus, and the Moris had been brought against them bows and arrows, assegais, and shields, who in many cases had no artillery at all, and when they had field guns did not know how to use them. But in the late war they met with a regular army. He saw it stated in some newspapers that the enemy they fought in Egypt was not worse than the British. But, though far from saying that at the Egyptian war was equal to an Englishman—in deed, he belonged to that old-fashioned school who believed that no man in the world was equal to an Englishman—(cheers)—he did not share in the opinion of those who thought ignorance or envy would be the cause what had been done, and say that the enemy were no

He could not conceive a greater folly than that

Government should stand still from motives of economy waiting until something better might be discovered and then to make use of the knowledge of the rule or an inferior, in, when they knew that other nations possessed superior weapons. He knew no great reason that could be committed by a Government. (Cheers.) It would be very instructive for any one to take up an Army list of 1812 and 1882 and compare the two. It would be impossible to find any one who knew anything about the matter that in the Crimean Army the men selected for command or for the Staff were chosen on account of family or political connexions. But if they turned to look at the army which had fought the Battle of Waterloo, they would find a difference. In the Crimea there was not a single officer belonging either to the Artillery or Engineers employed in the command of a division or brigade. But how different was the case in the Egyptian expedition. On the Head Quarters Staff there were 200 other Engineers or Artillerymen. (Cheers.) On his own personal staff, out of four Aides-De-Camp one was an Engineer and another an Artilleryman. The Chief of the Staff was Sir J. Adye, who was second in command, and no general in the Army was second in command. It was concluded that he was by Sir J. Adye. (Cheers.) The brigade to which he fell the brunt of all the fighting—"the fighting brigade"—as he might call it—was commanded by an Engineer, General Grahame. (Cheers)—a very old officer of the Artillery, a very experienced and the modesty of a young girl. (Cheers.) In short, they would find that a large portion of the men selected by his Royal Highness for high posts were chosen because they belonged to the two corps to which he had referred. In the Egyptian Army all the officers that were the backbone of the Army, he felt he was treading on thin ice, because for many years past it had been a very common thing for men who disliked the great reforms introduced of recent years, but which, in his humble opinion, made the Army what it was, to endeavour to make out that politics had entered into these reforms. Of all the cruel things ever said that was the most cruel. He had served under two Liberal and two Conservative War Ministers—under Lord Cardwell and Lord Cranbrook, Colonel Glynne, and he would be glad to go into the witness-box he could conscientiously say, if he were asked which of these four was the greatest Army reformer, that it was Colonel Stanley. (Cheers.) They were told by these men who objected to these reforms that they would be formed out of the scum of the population, that its officers would no longer belong to the same class, and that it could not march and could not fight. He would advise the men who said the Army could not march to take a pack on their backs in the morning and march to Cairo, and then say whether the Army could not march. (Cheers.) And as for their fighting qualities, he would appeal to General Lowe, to Macpherson, to Graham, and ask them did not their soldiers charge and make use of their bayonets and their rifles as well as the soldiers of former days. (Received cheers.) If our men when they got to Cairo had given way to the curse of our race—intoxication—it would not have been very surprising, seeing the privations which they had undergone, and that they had been in dirty water for the five weeks he had been in Cairo. He had never seen a drunken soldier. (Loud cheers.)

SIR EVELYN WOOD AND THE
EGYPTIAN ARMY.

The correspondent of the *Standard* at Cairo telegraphed on Monday night :—The Khedive was to-day informed that the British Government recommends General Sir Evelyn Wood for the command of the new Egyptian Army. The situation in the Soudan continues very serious. Eight battalions, as soon as they can be organised, will be despatched to reinforce Abdul Kader Pacha's army.

FASHIONABLE NEWS

The Empress Eugénie went to Windsor Castle on Monday afternoon on a visit to the Queen. Princess Beatrice, attended by Lady Biddulph and Colonel Sir J. M'Neill, met the Empress at the South-Western Station, Windsor, and accompanied her to the Castle where she remains the guest of the Queen.

The Duke of Edinburgh, accompanied by Prince Christian, left Charing-cross for Eastwell Park on Monday evening.

The Duke of Westminster, who came to town expressly to attend her Majesty, as Master of the Horse, at the opening of the new law courts, and the Duchess left Grosvenor House for Eaton Hall on Monday evening.

The Earl and Countess of Donoughmore have left town for Cannes for the winter. The Earl and Countess of Mexborough and Lady Mary Savile have left Methley Park for Wynnstay on a visit to Sir Watkin and Lady Williams Wynn. Lord Carlisleford, Lord Privy Seal, left

Sir F. A. Milbank, M.P., though still confined to his room, is recovering.

RECRUITING. — The *Broad Arrow* understands that a considerable stimulus has been given to recruiting at all our military stations by the late war in Egypt. A better class of men offer themselves for enlistment, a large proportion being Irish men. The fact is interesting in view of recent statement made in the House of Commons. If the Irish peasant won't take the "Queen's shilling" (to use an old formula) — "I need be mill'd so in England."

Until the appointment of a successor to the archbishopric, the Dean of Canterbury will

have the custody of the spiritualities of the diocese, the temporalities being in the hands of the Crown. Any episcopal jurisdiction exercised in the diocese will be performed by one of the bishops of the province, who will be directed by the Queen to act. By the death of the archbishop the Right Rev. Dr. Parry, archdeacon of Canterbury, ceases to be the Bishop of Dover. This is a fact which may not be generally known—that the appointment of Suffragan Bishop, which Archbishop Tait revived in the lapse of three hundred years, is now only during the lifetime of the person who makes the appointment. His successor may of course re-appoint Dr. Parry, and it is generally thought in Canterbury that this will be the case.

SMITHFIELD CLUB SHOW.

Birmingham has returned to the shorthorns. Victory awarded the palm to a Hereford steer exhibited by Mr. Price, of Walsingham, who had been a competitor in the contest that always attends the selection of the champion beast of the show was deepened by the question whether this remarkably fine ox would hold his own against all comers. The judges of cattle, Messrs. Samuel H. Newbery, John Rankin, Josiah P. Charles, Howard, Hugh Aylmer, Joseph P. Terry, Benjamin Stimpson, Robert Bruce, J. M. Griffiths—had confessedly hard task. Rarely, if ever, has all-round excellence called for such protracted deliberation, and yet before five o'clock had the victor before the great and coveted honour of the show was declared. Mr. Price's fine ox, however, which scaled over 21 cwt., without a rival at the Bingley Hall, was not the victor at Smithfield. The Hereford was owned by Mr. Walter, of Walsingham, and was the No. 60 of Mr. Lewis Lloyd, an animal that was not shown at Birmingham. Seven splendid animals were left in the competition for the Silver Cup for the best steer or ox, the guerdon being ultimately awarded to the Hereford No. 79, owned by Mr. Lewis Lloyd. Then it followed the ascription of the Silver Cup to the best heifer or cow, no fewer than eight remarkably fine competitors remaining in the contest. Two of this lot excited the general admiration, and were the victors in the Queen's Medal, almost perfect in their compactness and symmetry, and the shorthorn of Mr. Richard Striton, of perhaps still finer proportions. Public opinion was unanimous in selecting these two as the winners; the judges were slow in arriving at a decision as to which of the two was at length the champion for the shorthorn, amid some cheering. This judgment determined the final issue, for here now remained only the Hereford steer and the shorthorn heifer, and with brief delay the red and green denoting the victor, were handed to the Queen's representative, for the shorthorn Lillian, three years ten months old, sire Proctor, dam Lily. In the sheep classes, as with the cattle, the standard of general excellence is high. The Champion Prize was by the Hereford, a fine specimen of the Vales arrived from the stall about three o'clock, and was secured by Mr. Walter, M.P., the president, and Sir Brandreth Gibbs, the hon. secretary of the Smithfield Club, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, and Lord Walsingham. The Royal Highness spent some time in the show, and was taken to the grand stand, where the prize beasts were being tested. The Duke of Edinburgh spent some time in the show earlier in the day, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Prince of Saxe-Coburg. The Prince of Wales took the first prize in the class for Devon cows. It is a striking proof, however, of the fallibility of human judgments and of the impartiality of those delivered at these shows, that her Majesty's shorthorn Lillian, Lady Mary, a female of the Bingley Hall, was left with the Hereford champion, is a Lington relegated to the fourth place with practically the same animals competing. The Queen also takes a third prize with a fine Scotch polled steer.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.
Commission for the Dublin Winter

The Commission has been asked to consider the Counties of Wick, Wexford, Carlow, and the County of Kildare, the Counties of the County of Wick, the County of Wexford, the County of Carlow, and the County of the City of Drogheda, and the County of the City of Dublin, was opened on Monday. Mr. Justice O'Brien, in addressing the Grand Jury, said:—I regret extremely that on the first occasion on which I have the honour to preside as Judge of this Court, I am not so fortunate as to present to you a very grave and serious view of the extent of the duties you will have to perform, and of the conditions of the different counties over which it is your duty to adjudicate. The returns that have been made by the constabulary for the several counties comprising the County of Winter Assize are not leaving out of consideration the County of the City of Drogheda, are significant indeed of the unhappy state of things that exists in a large part of this country, exhibiting as they do a long list of offences of various kinds, directed against the person and property of the subjects of such a nature as not necessarily be fatal to the prosperity and happiness of any community. These returns exhibit a very large decrease as compared with the corresponding period of last year in the number of the offences; but upon a more careful examination I discover that the decrease falls almost exclusively under the head of offences against the person (murders, robberies, and I am not at all satisfied that I am justified in drawing from the decrease an conclusion favourable to the increase of the peace of the country, because it may be that these threatening letters and notices have been laid aside as comparatively unimportant and ineffective compared with the boldness and audacity with which crime recently committed has been had to more serious offences. I observe that all the more serious offences

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The Dual Control is at an end, and

THE TRIALS IN IRELAND

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

Court, as moulded by the 10th and 11th of Charles I., chap. 10, and a corresponding chapter of James I. A similar adjournment was granted in the other cases against Quinn and Healy.

LONDON GOSSIP.

(FROM THE "WORLD.")

er, and four and a half min

however, which is not done at midsummer.

THE TUILERIES.

speaking of the recent sale of the ruins of
of the Tuileries the *Daily Telegraph* says:—
Thus must pass from sight and knowledge the
retrolic relic of a building which was so full
of grand recollections for France and her cap-
ital. Nearly four hundred years have sped
since the first stone of the "Tile-yard," as
which stood here, as a site of the Palace
annually commenced by Catherine de Medicis.
The large wing of the Quai was added by
Henry Quatre, and Louis XIV. constructed
that on the side of the Rue de Rivoli, as well
as the great salons and porticoes. Here the
great Minister Colbert would have grieved if
he could have foreseen that the vast sums of
money which he provided for the fancies of
his magnificent master would end in a bid of
thirty-two thousand francs for the fabric which
was to be the King's ordinances accompan-
ied by "Those were days when the people
omptant." Those were days when the
the Grande Monarque wrote on a slip of pa-
per, "Pay cash. I know the object of this dis-
bursement;" and Colbert found the crowns,
in the memory of those times was irksome
to modern Frenchmen, who did not value
the splendour of the past. The Quai, from
the Thirteenth to the Sixteenth, dwelt there
its residents or prisoners, the Revolution had
ufficiently made it the people's property.
From October, 1789, to the days of the First
Napoleon, the history of the Tuileries and
that of the Revolution are one. Carlyle has
written in language as true as the tales of
Procession of Black Brecoches swept
on June 20, 1792, into the Palace under
Santerre, and forced the insulted King to put
in the red cap, and to stand face to face in
the Pavilion, now open to the sky, with the
sans-culottes, whose standard was a pair of
old soldiers' bayonettes fixed to a pole.
After this and the sittings of the
Constitutional Convention, which used the Palace
as a Parliament House, even Communists
might have thought that the building was
completely well purged of its associations with
royalty, right down to the guillotine. But
Santerre, indeed, dwell there, after having on "The
day of Sections," swept the Quais and the
Rue de Rivoli with his grape shot; and
when the First Empire passed and Louis
Philippe was placidly installed, the mob of
Paris again asserted their own un-
derstanding right, and before the close of
January, 1830, they had taken possession of
the Palace. A party of
rascally patriots and Republicans estab-
lished themselves on that occasion
for ten days in the Royal apartments, and
drank the cellars of wine empty. Five sepa-
rate times had the Parisian roughs besieged
the Tuileries, and each time the Emperor
Emperor Napoleon III. gave France eighteen
years of peace, and made the "Tile-yard"
the centre of his strong and watchful Rule. There
were years during that period when the
Tuileries was the centre also of the European
peace, and when its silent, saturnine master,
Louis Philippe, dwelt there, before the
justification, "When France is satisfied the
Government is at rest." But the fatal day arrived
when these now-ruined walls heard the shout
of the same foolish and restless people, "A
Republic!" and with the war came defeat, con-
fusion, anarchy, and the sway once more re-
stored to the people. To compare Santerre, Legen-
dierre, and the assassins of the hostages
and the destroyers of Paris. The old Revolu-
tionaries were made cruel by hunger and
oppression, but they did not go mad against
their own city. They pulled down the
remains of the Tuileries and powder-casks
of the past; for all Frenchmen, until
the modern breed of low Parisians appeared,
have had a touch of taste and grace. In
1871, however, the Communists waged war
in Paris herself; and for three nights and
days petroleum was poured upon the floors
and windows of the Tuileries and powder-
casks rolled under its archways, until a great
portion of the stately edifice was consumed
or overthrown, and nothing but the swift ar-
rival of General Douai with his troops saved
the neighbouring Louvre. "Beautiful Paris!
evil-hearted Paris! still thou art beautiful."
And when the grim and shameful illustra-
tion of the crime had been carried away, and they
have reared maisonsnettes for retired grocers
at Batignolles and Asnieres with the stones
of Louis XIV. laid and Napoleon in-
habited? Twelve or thirteen hundred pos-
sible, and we wonder how the authorities can
balance upon the municipal books in Paris of
his Royal and splendid pile. It would hardly
pay for a modest monument to be erected on
some corner of the vacated soil, commemorat-
ing the fact that "the people of Paris on
this spot, like children or the nation, have
destroyed what the despots made themselves
ridiculous in history." It is, however, unjust
to confound a furious minority of the
French mob with the gay and gallant Paris-
an race, and every friend of France will
hope that the disappearance of this monu-
ment of temporary popularity did not do
any wrong, and no longer needed. The
ten or twelve years which have passed since
the glare along the Rue de Rivoli shot across
the sea of humanity like the signal of a noble
self sinking in fire and blood, exhibit once
again a powerful, free, and peaceful France,
with her own government, and her own
man, forbearance, and patriotism to resume
her old place in Europe, at the head of civiliza-
tion and of civilising influences. Her
anger is as before within herself, and arises
not from hot spirit of impatience which will
let time work, or institutions develop
before she strikes. She is content with
which she throws herself into the arms
of this or that notable personage, be he
Napoleon, a Thiers, a Gambetta, or a Clé-
menceau, unwarned by her own past annals
at a nation must save itself, though it can
be destroyed by legitimate means. The
people of London, and far-reaching re-
jections to be evoked by the fall of an
actioner's hammer, selling building mate-
rials. Still, it is not every day that such a
is knocked down as the remnants of a
place which represented the history of
France, and which was the seat of the
plank of which was linked with some
monument, grand or striking, of the glories or
disasters, the triumphs or disasters, of that light-
ning and pleasant metropolis where no one
a stranger.

GALE AND SNOWSTORMS.

During Monday night and Tuesday morning
a strong south-easterly gale prevailed on the
east coast, accompanied by blinding
showers of hail. The sea was dangerously
rough. On Tuesday morning the steamer
Adyos, of Whitby, bound for Antwerp, was
driven ashore to Hemdon Dock. Owing, how-
ever, to the energetic efforts of the Coast-
guard crew, numbering 22, and one pas-
senger were rescued. The vessel is in a bad
condition, and repairs will cost £1000.

The weather at Denwick has been stormy,
and a very heavy sea is raging. Two vessels
have gone ashore at Goswick, but no particu-
lars regarding either of them or their crews
have yet been learnt. Two other vessels were
driven on Tuesday morning, and doubts
are expressed as to their fate.

There was a further heavy fall of snow in
Yorkshire and other parts of the Midland
districts on Tuesday, the fall commencing at
very early hour in the morning, and lasting
for some time. In consequence of the
heavy snow lying deep upon the ground, but
no wind came in from the east.

The brig *Mary Jones*, of Madoc, from Hel-
senburg for Gloucester, with oats, was aban-
doned in the North Sea on Sunday night, in
unmanageable condition. The crew, eight
in all, were picked up by the schooner *Mer-*
maid, and landed at that port on Monday
evening. Several fishing-boats have arrived at
armouth, and reported having lost hands
during the recent heavy weather.

A Lloyd's telegram from Tyncmouth, dated

A Four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

LONDON, DECEMBER 6-7, 1882.

The death of M. Louis Blanc, which took place at Cannes on Wednesday after a comparatively short illness, removes one more of that elder generation of Republican statesmen which is fast passing away. M. Louis Blanc occupied a peculiar and almost unique place in French politics. He was in no sense a popular speaker, and his writings, though they had a revolutionary reputation and flavour, were of a philosophical cast. He was himself essentially a moralist and a philosopher. An exile in England during the Imperial régime, he gained in this country universal esteem. He was a welcome visitor in social circles where no sympathy was felt for his views on the constitution of society; but where his accomplishments, his vivacity, and his high-mindedness were cordially recognised. His short figure became at one time somewhat familiar on the platforms of institutions in our large towns. His mastery of the English language, which he spoke accurately, though always with something of effort, and his complete knowledge of French history and politics, made his lectures valuable in promoting a better understanding of our neighbours and their problems. As a politician he was a thinker rather than an actor. His ideal was too high for realisation. It assumed in all men a disinterestedness not much inferior to his own. The Organisation of the labour, substituting co-operation for competition, of persuading men to labour for the community instead of for themselves, or for themselves not as units but as parts of the great whole. Individualism was to M. Louis Blanc the source of most of the evils from which modern communities suffer. The cure he believed to be, in his own words, "in the absorption of the individual in a vast solidarity in which each one should receive according to his wants, and should contribute according to his faculties." The idea is visionary, but M. Blanc never abandoned it. The revolution was hardly three months old when M. Louis Blanc was the object of a hostile demonstration from which he had to take refuge in the house of a political opponent, and at length to escape to Belgium, and thence to England. He remained in England till the revolution of 1870 re-opened France to him, and the Government of the National Defence would have sent him to ask English aid for France if he had been allowed to pass out through the Prussian lines. He probably sympathised with the proposal for a Federal instead of a Centralised Republic in France, but he supported M. Thiers. Since the formal establishment of the Republic he has remained a member of the Chamber of Deputies, the darling of the French working classes, one of the leaders of the minority of the Extreme Left, but not an intransigent or irreconcilable, though disqualified by nature for the acceptance, perhaps even for the full understanding, of the opportunism which M. Gambetta has made a powerful element in French politics. He had not Ledru-Rollin's power. He was gentler, quieter, more reticent, less of a politician, and more of a philosopher. In no sense did he answer to the typical revolutionist, yet his views, held tenaciously and with the noblest motives behind them, were more revolutionary than those of any of his political friends. He was marked out by his popularity with the working classes as a member of the Provisional Government in 1848. Had he been animated at this time by mere personal ambition instead of enthusiasm for what he regarded as a great cause, he might have made himself, for a time at least, Dictator of Paris. It was at this crisis of his life that the strength of M. Louis Blanc's character came out in the most striking manner. His first step was to procure the immediate abolition of capital punishment for political offences. His second proposal was the creation of a Ministry of Progress. He collected signatures to this suggestion, but granted him a *Warrant of Commisison*, of which was the President. This Commission sat in the Old Peers' Chamber at the Luxembourg, and he called them the Peers of Labour. It was not he, but some of his colleagues, who set up the National Work-shops. They took this step by way of answer to the exaggerated hopes on one side and the fears on the other which the Luxembourg meeting aroused. The work-shops failed, as M. Blanc himself expected. They were established in opposition to his advice, and their complete breakdown in no way involved any of his own theories of social reform. Farly in connection with this mistake of his colleagues he was obliged to resign his post, to the disappointment of his friends. The socialistic workmen who had learned his theories, but not his patience and self-control, were in a hurry to effect the organisation of labour by further revolution. M. Louis Blanc restrained them. He used his whole influence to maintain order, and it passed away to more violent men. In the midst of the troubles which broke out in May he nearly fell a victim to both sides, and was obliged to fly from France. The history of his connection with the Revolution of 1848 was only gradually understood. He was only under the unfounded suspicion which he pursued him in Paris, of complicity in the Communistic rising. A similar suspicion equally unfounded, arose respecting him in some alarmed minds in 1871. M. Louis Blanc, however, was a revolutionist only in his principles. He would not in any case have resorted to violence to establish the new social order he wished to found. He would have brought it about by a force of ideas alone. He was a propagandist of the pen and not of the sword.—*Daily News*.

At about one o'clock on Thursday morning the Alhambra Theatre in Leicester-square was discovered to be on fire, and information was at once despatched to the police and fire brigades in all the districts. Down to two o'clock it was impossible to get accurate information as to how the fire originated. The theatre was closed at 11.15, and after the evening performance, and everything was left apparently safe. The first symptoms of danger seem to have been observed about one o'clock on Thursday morning, and the alarm was at once sent in every direction.

In an amazingly short space of time the fire broke out in the auditorium, through the windows and roof with incredible rapidity. The materials of the interior were well calculated to yield readily to the flames, and once they got hold of the roof the side wind which was blowing rapidly fanned them into a glowing furnace. A strong force of police was sent in to try and contain the flames, but the smoke in the auditorium began to growl, the thoroughfares leading to the place, from possible danger, and allowing the firemen room for their operations. Within half an hour the roof of the theatre yielded to the flames, which then burst up high into the air, followed by tremendous volumes of grey smoke. The square was lighted up with a noontide brilliancy, and a ruddy glow was cast over the whole of the densely populated district of Soho. Thousands of people congregated from all parts, but they were kept far away from the burning building by strong lines of police. The flames then leaping into Leicester-square. The greatest excitement prevailed, the locality being one of the most densely populated in the metropolis, and the streets very narrow. The Alhambra itself is flanked on each side by dwelling-houses, hotels, and schools, and behind it, in the street called the Strand, is the Martin-lane, are huge blocks of property used as dwelling-houses, and many of them let out in tenements. At one time it seemed as if the whole of the east side of Leicester-square would be destroyed, but the efforts of the well-disciplined fire brigade were successful in limiting the flames to a small area, less than could have been expected.

The Alhambra itself is gutted and the building destroyed. At 2.45 a.m. the fire was still burning.

Another account says:—About one o'clock on Thursday it was discovered that the Alhambra Theatre was on fire. The performance of the *Merry War*, the opera which was then in progress, was not interrupted, but concluded shortly after 11 o'clock, and the different assistants had left the house, as they imagined, in a state of security. The fire first broke out in the large saloon at the back of the second circle, and late the time of the performance it was seen to rise from the premises. The alarm was quickly given to the different fire-stations; but it was some time before the engines could arrive, and the inflammable nature of the burning building enabled the fire to spread rapidly. The firemen crowded collectors, and it was with great difficulty that the police could keep the square clear for the engines. Ultimately about a dozen steam engines and six "manuals" were brought to play upon the burning building, but the flames, which at first were very decreasing, although it was clear that the whole theatre was wrecked. Some houses at the back in Castle-street had also caught light, and distressing scenes were witnessed as the poor people living in the houses were very much distressed, although they were very rich in worldly possessions. Capt. Shaw arrived on the scene shortly after the alarm had been given, and actively superintended the action of the firemen. At 2.30 the fire was still raging with great fury, and the flames were seen to rise from the windows that capped the front of the building on either side would fall in. Amongst those who were attracted to the scene were to be noticed a large number of actors and persons engaged in theatrical business generally. The fire was so prevalent on account of the great loss the fire will cause to all those of the profession who were engaged for the Christmas piece. This piece was to have been mounted on a very big scale, and it is to be feared that the result will be thrown out of employment at the very worst season of the year.

The building which has thus been destroyed by fire was not a very old one, but it may be noted that it stood almost exactly on the site of the Anatomical Museum of John Hunter, the celebrated surgeon, now transferred to the College of Surgeons in the Strand. The building, in the Moorish or Arabesque style of architecture, was erected by the architect, John Nash, and was opened in 1852, not as a theatre, but as a place of popular instruction, something of the same character as the Polytechnic. It was named "The Royal Panopticon of Science and Art," which was suggested by the Metropolitan Philanthropic individuals anxious to combine something of amusement with instruction. The building was large, and the interior decorations and appointments were very complete, but the speculation did not succeed, and the theatre was closed, and the building was put up for sale. The house was for a time stocked, but was re-opened under the name of the Alhambra as a place of amusement alone. It was intended to combine the music-hall with the theatre; but it has of late years been devoted wholly to the entertainment of the public. It has been known as the home of spectacle, opera bouffe, or burlesque, and the spacious stage gave ample scope for picturesque scenic effect, and the massing together of large numbers of performers. The auditorium was one of the finest in London, and the side boxes and galleries, and was admirably adapted both for seeing and hearing. Architecturally the building altogether was magnificent. The facade was flat, with lofty minarets at the corners; and the vast central dome, with its coloured decorations, was the chief decorative feature of the object. A great organ was specially built for the Panopticon, and this, at the break-up of the company, was purchased for St. Paul's Cathedral, but has since been removed to London. The loss of the Alhambra will be felt in London and in the provinces, for it was one of the most popular places of amusement in the metropolis.

(FROM "TRUTH

The luncheon at the Middle Temple on Monday was very well done, but great dissatisfaction was caused by the Prince not being able to partake of it, owing, it is said, to Royal Command, in consequence of the death of the Archbishop of Canterbury. With his usual affability, however, his Royal Highness was not above showing his interest in making a tour of the large luncheon tent, as previously arranged, and then consoled himself by paying a visit to the Cattle Show. The tables were very prettily decorated with flowers, including some fine orchids and other choice plants, which were lent for the occasion by a few of the ladies. As the Prince wished to record, however, that not only the cut flowers, but even the rarer specimens, were ruthlessly appropriated by some of the ladies' guests, who even went to the length of pulling up plants by the roots, regardless of the remonstrances of the attendants.

Now, as the Prince is a great strata lad, never can keep their hands from picking and stealing flowers, while lower-strata ladies frequent the parks without ever indulging in kleptomaniac! So too, it is with umbrellas. A poor man, unless one of the criminal classes, never thinks of appropriating or taking notice of him, while a gentleman, on the other hand, regards an umbrella as his own man's absolute property. (It was thus the gentleman who stole my umbrella last week to return it to me at his earliest convenience.)

Many people are surprised that the Grand Duke and Duchess Vladimir should be such wanderers on the face of the earth. The fact is the Grand Duchess, who is young and imprudent, has long been amusing herself by her travels. The Grand Duke, the husband of the St. Petersburg Palace, and even of her Imperial female cousins. A letter, addressed by her to a Russian Princess living in Paris, and in which she boasted most unmercifully of "the cat, the mouse, the 'toad' and the 'frog' term," was named in the design of some of the aforesaid ladies), was intercepted by one of the Generals attached to the *Cabinet Noir*, who handed it over to the Czar. The Empress was terribly angry, and insisted on the Grand Duchess Vladimir being sent for to the front.

Lady Ellesmere and Lady Brownlow have lately been "invested" with the ribbon. The number of temporary pledges is astonishing, but I fear they are taken and broken with equal levity. I know of four only who have actually sworn to abstain from any kind of wine, all of whom signed promises to abstain, and forthwith commenced to wear the ribbon; but in less than three weeks three out of the four were taking their beer as usual. No doubt one would hear of similar cases in the future. It is a pity that the Army, so its statistics must be avoided with considerable qualification. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that the sale of alcoholic liquors is diminishing—to the disadvantage of the revenue, and to the advantage of the nation. If, however, the movement is to be permanent, larger beer—a healthy, invigorating, and non-intoxicating beverage—should be brought into general use. Why should not a squire who owns a parish establish a lager beer house, and sell it at a moderate price? It would do more to put an end to inebriety than all the efforts of the teetotalists.

Lovers of scandal will, early in the year, be regaled with the piquant details of the divorce of the English couple whose separation in Paris was so much talked of last summer. There is reason to fear that the susceptible little lady, who, in the excitement of the moment, taken their departure, were unwittingly outraged now and again by various little incidents of their visit here. For example, several of them whose religion forbids them to look upon a picture, were taken to the Nympheum at Capri, where the artist, Mr. Nymphe, the eloquence of that eminent art critic, Sir Frederick Haines, who acted as cicerone on the occasion, failed to inspire them with admiration for Turner's eccentric masterpieces, and the amusement of passing the hour in the end, was another drawback, for this method of salutation is quite contrary to their customs. Fussy strangers were perpetually coming up to them, and insinuating upon shaking hands, like the elderly shabby genteel individual who, on the occasion of a party at the railway stations, "Are these the Indians who have just arrived from Egypt?" he inquired of the officers who accompanied them adding, considerably, "Do you think they would like me to shake hands with them?" and, "I am sure they would." "No," they want to, they will probably raise no objection."

"They were frequently embarrassed at being confronted with ladies, in whose society they were always ill at ease. In their own country they are accustomed to shut their women up as everybody knows, and they could never so easily overcome the tendency to magnanimity in this respect. When they went to the Tower some ladies sat down at the same table with them to luncheon, upon which several of the Indians gravely rose and seated themselves apart at a side table. Another awkward *contretemps* occurred at Hengler's party, when a lady, who was to give her appearance in the ring. Now a wig is an abomination in the eyes of our late visitors, and many of them would, under ordinary circumstances, have felt constrained to turn aside as such a loathsome spectacle, or spit upon the party, fearing that the introduction of the innocent pig might be regarded as an insult and wishing to avert any unpleasantness; whispered significantly that the animal was a French dog. This explanation was gravely accepted by the Indians, whose politeness prevented them from taking their feelings and to sit out the performance, without any outward manifestation of disgust.

The refreshing rest which the Indians will enjoy on their homeward voyage will seem like a blessed awakening from a delicious nightmare, for the fact is they were overworked by sight-seeing, and the simple pleasures of the trip had really interested them exceedingly. Woolwich Arsenal, which made more impression upon them than all the rest of their experiences put together. Old Anglo-Indians consider that it was a great mistake to take them to the Arsenal, but the fact is that the cost of such spectacle was calculated to lower their high respect and reverence for white women. However, there can be no question that our visitors were deeply touched and flattered by the cordial reception they received from a large number of the community. It is probable that the experiment of bringing them over will have beneficial results.

The Queen had fully intended visiting the Archbishop at Addington last week, but owing to the illness of the Duke of Devonshire to such an advent would be most injurious to the patient, and the painful excitement of such an interview might have seriously affected her Majesty's own health, especially at this time of the year, and the necessary delay in her consort's illness and death produces a disposition to morbid gloom.

cannot help thinking that the Dublin Police is not exactly what it ought to be. Even in Russia the Nihilists are tracked out and caught; but in Dublin, it would seem murder and murderous assault can be perpetrated with perfect impunity. Presumably we are concerned in the few in number, but good many people must have an inkling what the miscreants are; and yet no revelations are made, notwithstanding that enormous rewards are offered for their capture. It is hindered, crime by timely precautions. We should not a few clever detectives live among those who are suspected of being concerned in, discover their secrets, and then hand them over to justice? It is the Irish system, and it has proved suspicious as to one of the murders of Lord Frederick Cavendish, and that he is residing in Dublin. Is his house watched? Are his steps dogged? Lord Mayor Dawson offered to be responsible for the safety of his office, and that is why his offer not taken? The present system is an obvious failure. No one imagines for a moment that Mr. Dawson would not do his best, and I would most strongly suggest that instead of keeping the Dublin Police at arm's length, the Castle should at least take it into its cognizance.

There was no decided change on Wednesday in Mr. Fawcett's condition. While the diphtheria has subsided, the typhoid symptoms continue very pronounced, and some days must necessarily elapse before the critical stage is reached. The temperature, however, fluctuates in the patient's condition in the meantime being a characteristic of the disease. Instead of Mr. Fawcett's illness being caused by an attack of diphtheria, it seems now to be due to the medical treatment of the case. The case was one of true typhoid fever from the outset, complicated with diphtheria. Mr. Fawcett's splendid physique enables him to combat the disease well; but it cannot be said as yet whether there is no ground for apprehension as to the result. The medical bulletin issued on Wednesday evening, which was signed by Drs. Andrew Clark, J. Forster Anderson, John Forster Anderson, and Edgar Wright, R.F.S.S., contains the following:-

"Mr. Fawcett has had some quiet sleep; and is now in a more satisfactory condition than he was yesterday."

Our readers will hear with deep regret of the death of Mr. Anthony Trollope. Seized suddenly at the dinner table, only a few weeks ago, with something in the nature of a stroke, he lay on his back, and the doctors felt as to his recovery. He rallied more or less, and from time to time, thanks to a naturally vigorous constitution, but he cannot be said to have ever recovered either speech or perfect consciousness. Within the last few months two of his eyes had become blind, and he was drawing near, and he died at 6 o'clock on Wednesday evening. The circumstance being as they were, this was hardly to be regretted. Had he lived or lingered on, this brilliant and successful probably happy life would have been himself; and we can imagine a sadder fate to a man of his intellect and character than renouncing the pursuit which has brought him both fame and fortune. As it is, he was removed in a lusty maturity, and, as he had had time to arrange his affairs, his fatigable industry or dull the brightness of his versatile fancy.

Mr. Trollope was far from being an old man, and might well have looked forward to further years of activity. He was born on the 24th of April in the famous "Waterloo year," and was a son of the gifted lady who wrote "Widow Barnaby," and whose observations on the nature of the English aristocracy kindled caused such dire indignation to the citizens of the Union. He had been educated at Winchester and Harrow; and, shortly after leaving school, was appointed to a clerkship in the Post Office. And, although he studied business habits to the contractions of his fingers, he threw himself with characteristic earnestness into his official occupations. So much so, that in his later life, he was repeatedly chosen to negotiate delicate international postal arrangements with different Continental Governments. He was, however, not so steadily in official harness, the bent of his literary instincts was irresistible, and he yielded to it very early by way of distraction. We believe that the first of his acknowledged and republished novels were "The Macdonalds of Ballycloran," issued in 1817, a work which may be said to have foreshadowed its appearance in the following year. But we have Mr. Trollope's own authority for saying that he had written other novels before these, which, we presume, he had subsequently recognised as comparative failures. "I can still read the melancholy story of 'The Macdonalds,'" he writes, "and I am sure that great deal of genuine Hibernian drollery of the lively social sketches contained in 'O'Kelly's.'" Having felt his strength and discovered his vein, thenceforth Mr. Trollope has poured forth from his teeming brain an inexhaustible stream of popular fiction, and secured a popularity which he has never more must have been marvellous, putting far out of the question. He used to boast, as we doubt not with reason, that he was the most prolific novelist of his day—which probably means the most prolific novelist of the century. And, although he has not said so, we shall have to say a word or two by-and-by, and, all the time, or at least until his

divinity to law, we have only to assist at the famous trial in "Orley Farm" to be half persuaded that the author must be a practitioner in some of our courts, or at least in the Criminal Courts. As for his doctors, he more seldom needs to go into the technicalities of physic; but what can be better than his representations of consultations and death-bed scenes, with their Filgraves and Thornes and Sir Omicron Pies. The inevitable Dr. Thorne is so familiar to us, that it is almost as if we were acquainted with him personally, and so familiarised to us by the very decided idiosyncrasy which is merely coloured by his professional pursuits. And talking of Dr. Thorne leads us to remark that Trollope can boast of one rare distinction which is a conclusive proof of his standing in his craft. He has enriched our English fiction with no less than twenty-five references to how many of these there may be, no doubt there will be differences of opinion, but we can dare to name several whose titles are altogether incontestable. To begin with, there is that venerable Warden of Hiran's Hospital, with the soft-spoken, kindly, and somewhat old-fashioned and the gentle spirit that was nevertheless too high to stoop to anything that might trouble his sensitive conscience—There is that very different type of clergyman—though a scarcely less admirable one—the Rev. Mr. Crawley, learning, in the depths of his despondency, almost morose, and yet with a lesson from the bricklayer that "it is dogged that does it." There is that most autocratic among ecclesiastical dignitaries, the Rev. Mrs. Proudie, the very much better half of the Bishop of Barchester. Next we have the motley group of Statesmen and politicians, such as Lord Paget, Lord Darnley, Lord Come Duke of Omnium and Premier, and the consistency of whose attributes is so excellently developed and preserved in that comparatively recent novel of "The Duke's Children." There are fascinating scampscapes like Mr. Sowerby, and commercial travellers like Mr. Giltspur, and a host of other types like Scatcherd, and strong-minded spinsters like Miss Dunstable; and such embodiments of maidenly beauty and good-humoured innocence as Lucy Robarts and Grace Crawley and Lily Dale, which surprise us as being realised rather than idealised by a middle-aged man who has been married twice. I believe, in his own, the most perfect novel Mr. Trollope ever wrote was his "Lads Chronicle of Barsat," and its chief defect was the introduction of a subsidiary story to spit it out to the regulation three-volume length. Mr. Trollope has gone, and it will be hard to fill his place as well as better at the head of the literary fiction to our most popular periodicals. But those who will miss him most are the many personal friends to whom he was endeared by his kindly nature and his genial manners; and we cannot resist a melancholy suspicion that if he had relaxed a little sooner he might have spared himself us no longer.

us no longer injured, when he began to grow nervous under the strain of keeping engagements against time.—Times.

WINDSOR CASTLE, WEDNESDAY.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove yesterday afternoon, attended by the Hon. Evelyn Paget, General Sir Lintorn Simmonds, G.C.B., arrived at the Empress Hotel, where the Duke and the Empress Eugénie and Princess Beatrice, Lady Alice, Combray, Madame d'Arcos, the Duc de Bassano, General Sir Lintorn Simmonds, General the Right Hon. Sir Henry and the Hon. Lady Ponsonby, the Hon. Evelyn Paget, Captain Sir John and the Master of the House hold. The Queen walked this morning attended by the Hon. Horatia Stophord. The Princess Eugénie took leave of her Majesty and Princess Beatrice this morning, and the Duke and the Empress Eugénie, the Duc de Bassano, left the Castle shortly after 10 a.m. for Farnborough Hill. Colonel the Hon. W. Carington (Esquerry in Waiting) attended the Empress to the Great Western Railway Station in Windsor. General Sir Lintorn Simmonds accompanied the Queen to the station.

The Duchess of Albany left Esher for Windsor on Wednesday afternoon on a visit to the Queen.

The Maharajah and the Maharane Dule Singh and family arrived at the Hotel Harrington to reside permanently at 53, Holland-park, Kensington.

The Lord Chancellor and Lady Selborne had a dinner party on Tuesday evening at their residence in Portland-place.

General Lord and Lady Wolsley have left town on a visit to the Earl and Countess Lovelace at Horsley Towers, Leatherhead.

Colonel the Right Hon. F. A. Stanley M.P., and Lady Constance Stanley have left town for Witherslack Hall, Lancashire.

The Hon. Louisa Carleton and the Hon. Darcia Curzon are among the latest arrivals.

A marriage is arranged and will shortly take place between Mr. Tremayne Miles, 18, Hussars, eldest son of Mr. Edward Miles, of St. Thomas's, Malabarbury, and Miss Arthur Corall, second daughter of Mr. Arthur Thomas Sellar, of Hallgrove, Bagshot.

The death is announced of Elizabeth, Lady Johnson, wife of Sir John Henry Johnson, St. Osyth's Priory, Essex, from an attack typhoid fever. Lady Johnson was the daughter of Captain Foster, of Scarborough, and married in 1868 Mr. Johnson, who was Secretary to the Middlesex Militia, 1871, when he received the honour of knighthood on the occasion of the visit of the Emperor of Russia to the city after the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh.

Dublin was visited by a heavy snowstorm on Wednesday morning. In the city the snow lay several inches in depth, and traffic was seriously impeded. Extra horses were attached to the trams, and in some of the suburbs the tramway traffic was temporarily rarely seen. The English mail was delayed, and the trains on the railways were delayed, and some of them brought to a standstill. Snowballing was indulged in by the students of the city. On Wednesday afternoon a serious snowballing disturbance took place in College-green, Dublin, between the university students and others. A policeman was violently assaulted, and others injured. His nose was broken, and his teeth were knocked loose. Arrests were made, and the magistrates were engaged all the afternoon hearing charges of snowballing.

noon hearing changes or snowfalling.

An Aberdeen train, which was due to start at 12.45, was delayed for an hour after noon. The snowstorm from the North continues. The gale has to a considerable extent abated, but early this morning it blew fiercely, accompanied by showered hail and snow, the hailstones being of extraordinary size. The snow continues to fall continuously and heavily, and the snow lies to a considerable depth. There is, however, an absence of drifting, and there are no blocks on the railways. The trains are therefore able to run on time, and the traffic is considerably behind time, and the train way is temporarily in Aberdeen is stopped. It is feared that the snow will continue to fall, and that the transit of cattle to the Glasgow and London Christmas markets, the roads being such a condition that the animals cannot be taken to the stations. Only one train of sixteen wagons with cattle arrived at Aberdeen today. It has been arranged that two hundred cattle will be sent to Glasgow tomorrow if the state of the weather permits.

The first train from Edinburgh got to Glasgow Central Station at nine on Wednesday morning was three hours and a half late, the train having been blocked up by snow at Fouldhouse. The subsequent trains from Glasgow arrived at Lookerie late, having been blocked by snow at the summit of the Caledonian Line, north of Beattock. Snow fell steadily at Windsor on Wednesday. A heavy snow

storm passed over Scarborough on Wednesday. The gale had not subsided. Winter weather has commenced early in the Channel Islands. Heavy snow and hail have fallen all over the islands. Reports of heavy falls of snow from the north of Scotland to the south of Wales and West Berkshire, where the ground is thickly covered with snow.

John Williams, of Cardiff, fishguard, and George Jenkins went out in a boat on Tuesday evening to attempt to save herring nets, which gales with heavy hail broke to pieces on the sands. They had got some nets up when the boat capsized, and both were drowned. On Wednesday morning a larger vessel, supposed to be a three-masted schooner, went ashore at Goswick Sands. The crew took to the foremast, but this gale was too strong for them, and they were blown overboard. The Holy Island rocket apparatus was at the wreck, but the lines could not reach the ship. A latter message states that the vessel which went ashore is the Italian barkentine *Sirocco* of Castellamare, from Newcastle to Bari, with 100 tons of gunpowder. The crew, 12, were on the North Sea pilot on board, and only two of them have been saved—an Italian and a Swede, who were washed ashore.

Later information states:—At Oldham the snow was carried by a strong wind, and in some places was above a yard deep. At Henshaw-street a child fell into a drift, and would probably have been suffocated had not been saved by a policeman on duty in the neighbourhood. Several children were reported missing, and fears are entertained that they have been blown away. At the East Lancashire the storm was very severe. The roads were almost impassable, snow in some places being several feet deep. Between Accrington and Haslingden two boys were found by the roadside, one of them being almost dead. At Leeds and Great Yorkshire the storm caused many interruptions to railway traffic, and compelled collieries to suspend all surface operations, the snow in many places being over a yard deep. The Manchester train due at Barnsley had not started on Wednesday arrived at several o'clock having snowed up for two hours at Dodworth. In Sheffield the snowstorm lasted the entire day. Traffic on the tramways was very difficult, the line having to be repeatedly cleared with the snow ploughs. A train going to Barnsley was checked up at Great Wharfedale, and a collision occurred on the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire line near Penistone, but without serious injury to the passengers. The snowfall was one of the heaviest ever experienced in the West of England. The snow on the roads, and the railway and vehicular traffic have been greatly delayed, and in many cases completely stopped. The down train which left Chirk with volunteers and others who had taken part in the demonstration of welcome to General Wood, did not start until it had stood, and remained for nearly two hours until an extra engine had been obtained.

Lloyd's telegrams from Somercootes at Saltfleet announce that a vessel went to pieces on the Halc Sand on Wednesday. All hands are supposed to be drowned. Wheat a thick deck planking are washing ashore on North Somercootes, and a letter directed "John Mc'Master, ship *Fiona*, of Glasgow." Captain Rhodes, "with other wreckage marked *Fiona*, has washed ashore at Saltfleet. The *Fiona*, a ship of 1,450 tons, built at Glasgow in 1878, and owned in Glasgow, classed No. 1 at Lloyd's, commanded by Captain Rhodes, and bound from San Francisco to Hull, with wheat, sailed from Falmouth about Dec. 3.

Dec. 3. A Norwegian brig, named the *Figuier*, 1 gone ashore at Berwick Lighthouse, and is a total wreck. The crew, eight in number, were saved by the rocket apparatus.

On Wednesday afternoon, during a fearful gale and snowstorm, the brig *Star of Hope*, ballast, from Dieppe for Newcastle, belonged to Mr. Knott, of the latter port, was driven ashore on Whitty beach, and is likely to be a total wreck. The crew of six hands were saved by the Royal National Institution's life boat.

On Wednesday afternoon, the French schooner *Ecuriel*, from Calais to Warkworth was observed driving ashore near the lifeboat house at Hartlepool. The coastguard threw a line over her, but the crew making no use of it, a coastguardman essayed to swim with a hand line; in the meantime, however, the lifeboat was launched, and, pulling along the shore, succeeded in rescuing the crew of five.

The *Daily News* says:—London had un-

The *Daily News* says:—London had up Wednesday night escaped the full vigour of the terrible storm which has been raging further north. Snow fell, but without desolation; in fact so few were the flakes that the surliness of the weather might have been leniently described as "only manner," and quote a contemporary humorist, and

quote a contemporary humourist, and writers of the time were not without their own fears. Quakers could scarcely feel certain that it was snowing at all. "I have no doubt about the intention and the wisdom of the weather," wrote one, "but the performances of the weather. In Durham the snow is lying three feet deep, and the roads are stopped. Similar reports come from Cleveland, Shire, Warwickshire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Lancashire. It is said to have fallen in the northern counties of Scotland during the whole of last winter. Indeed, in the last winter (though it endured almost as long as the present) the sheep of the north were the farmers of late so unfortunate, cannot have lost many sheep in the snow. A more wretched sight than a bleak Scottish valley with its sour green hills and cold steeps covered with a grey burn in early spring, pines

skeletons and carcasses of dead sheep can hardly be imagined. Such sights two springs since, were only too common, but this winter, if the snow were to come, it would be more to expect that the sheep, perhaps keeping three sheep alive at the cost of one, and losing many in spite of all their expense and labour. A hard life that of the sheep-farmer in Sutherlandshire or Ross-shire, with his long visits through bleak glacial country, where the sheep's family features are obliterated, to the sheep of some starving upland farm. Fifeshire the snow has been lying two inches deep, and it was eight inches deep further south, among the chilly moorlands through which the sheep have to wade. In the lowlands, the Scotch towns have suffered almost as much as London in nearly two years ago in that driving storm snow as fine as dust which no one who has to face it is ever likely to forget. In Aberdeen and Dundee the picturesque streets were blocked by the snow, and the tramway cars. People who are obliged to undertake railway journeys are probably providing themselves with several thicknesses of raiment, with provisions enough for a siege, not, we trust, without whisky. Scotch trains, even more than English trains, are apt to be delayed by the snow, and it is still a snow whet. Two years ago many a dun, unused to discomfort, suffered like the French in the Retreat from Moscow, while trains were stopped by snow not far from Didcot. People have had to wait a long time longer on the high crests of the railways, crowded with Dalwhinnie, and on the frozen heights where the Gala takes its rise. These circumstances to be without meat, drink, tobacco, and plenty of rugs and great coats is to incur very great danger, and people of ordinary means and rectitude are not very much better off in Devonshire during the last great storm of November. They had a roof over their heads, but provisions were uncommonly short, and households were put on a stinted allowance of coal. The worst of it was that the snow was so deep that the only means of communication was by the frozen hedge-tops above the snow-choked lanes.

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Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 7-8, 1882.

THE WEATHER IN ENGLAND.

The snowstorm, which for a week past has been slowly travelling southwards, has at last reached London, and the metropolis is now encircled by a girdle of more or less unsullied whiteness. The fall has been widespread. The telegrams which we print elsewhere show that it has extended over the entire extent of the British Islands, while the more northern parts of the Continent have been visited by it to such a degree as to block the roads and bring traffic to a standstill. Where the storm has been accompanied by severe frosts, as in Denmark and Finland, it has caused the closing of the Baltic and the suspension of all communication between the Island of Zealand and the neighbouring shores. Happily, in our latitudes the frost is never so intense as to impede maritime navigation, and rarely even to block the roads, rivers, and lakes. But in Scotland and the North of England we hear of railways being blocked, of country roads being impassable, and of the telegraph lines being broken by the heavy load of snow or by the drifts which the wind has piled against them. The storm threatens to continue, and if hard weather sets in, we may experience something of the doubtful pleasure implied by an "old-fashioned Christmas." However, such is the fickleness of the English climate, that before another day elapses the misery of a thaw may be upon us, and the sun will be shining brightly, with all the slush, damp fogs, drizzle, and pulmonary diseases that follow in its train. This changeableness of the weather is one of the principal reasons why we find either much heat or unusual cold so trying. In this country we are not prepared for either. Every summer we have a few extremely hot days, and occasionally a week characterised by a sun as torrid as that of Calcutta, though, owing to the comparative dryness of the air, not quite so exhausting. Yet we make no preparation for it, hoping that it is only an exception to the rule that our July and August should be temperate when compared with the summers of equatorial regions. Again, as was the case in January, 1881, the entire country is swaddled up in snow almost as thick as that which covers Canada during the winter months, and we shiver under a sky as inhospitable as that which drives the Russian to his furs. But both the hot July and the cold January come upon us, and find us without adequate protection or defence. Our houses are fitted for average weather, our clothes for average seasons, and our municipal arrangements, framed with no such contingency as a snowstorm in view, break down completely under the extra pressure put upon them. The streets are impassable, the cabs, omnibuses, and tramway cars are stopped, and London is saved the horrors of a blockade solely owing to the fact that the Railway Companies are better able to rout the Snow King, before he can reach the Common Council, than any other body. Winter, however, finds the further North not only prepared for it, but ready to welcome its advent as a happy relief from sultry days, rutty roads, and the plague of mosquitoes. It is terrible to imagine what would be the sanitary condition of a score of Russian villages were they never visited by a fall of snow. All the refuse of the household and the slaughter-house is tossed outside the doors and permitted to fester where it falls, until the "Kjokken modding" assumes proportions which would give a scientific nightmare to any sound hygienist. Fortunately, however, just as the pile is beginning to heave, typhoid and the other ills that dirt is heir to, the snow arrives with a mantle of antiseptic covers every thing which can never penetrate. In a few months the thaw comes, and the rivers of melting slush course over the ground, carrying with them the foul refuse heaps, so that by May or June the moulting may begin his easy-going domestic economy in the old routine. Russia is still a land of few railways, and of roads which can only be called so by courtesy. Yet the first fall of snow converts the worst forest track over which a tarantass ever stumbled, into a surface as smooth as the Nevski Prospect. The rude carriage which makes "travel the fool's paradise" is dismounted, and for the next five months runs on the noiseless sleds. Towns which only communicate by means of pack-horses are now busy exchanging courtesies and the commodities over the snow, and the weary way from Tobolsk to the Cis-Ouralic wastes is alive with streams of sledges passing and repassing, despite the short days and the iron sky. Social intercourse is renewed in the country, and the gay city season begins. The snow, therefore, which in the South severs mankind, unites them in the North, and, instead of dedicating the fabric of Society, binds it together more firmly than before. It is the same, in a greater or less degree, in Canada, in the Western and New England States, in Denmark, in Sweden, in Norway, and even in still further North, in Greenland and Labrador, and among the lonely fur-trading forts that dot the lonely coast of the Arctic Ocean. In the North, the winter is never dreaded, though it is just possible that, like other genial visitors, it grows painfully monotonous before the June sun dissipates the last of the snow, which lingers in the shady places along the bleak rocks where the yellow poppy and the dwarf willow creep

among the dismal cover of *tripe de roche*. In Greenland the men or women who cannot sail in a leather boat must stay at home as soon as the "us-fod" disappears and the molten snow makes noisy the cliffs bordering the lonely fjords. But the September snow is the signal for pleasant feasting and merrymaking. The dog sledges skims along the surface of the snow-covered frozen sea; the seal arrives on the coast; the reindeer and the ptarmigan are driven down to the lowlands, and life is made all the more tolerable that food is abundant, and some means of amusement possible in a country which, even if it be at the back of the north wind, the old Moravian priest considered one of the most cheerful in the world—"for there was always something to vary the sameness of life." Unfortunately for the due appreciation of snow, we are not all Eskimo, Greenland Danes, or Laps, and have neither ungaily reindeer nor wolfish dogs to draw our sledges if we had them, nor like the Hyperboreans, flocks of reindeer to slay at will for food, light, and raiment. Hence the storm which is at present a qualified delight to a great number of people is to a multitude more an unredempted misery. They neither sleigh, nor skate, nor snowball. Their associations connect Christmas with the old-fashioned cold, and the lack of food which is the oldest of their wants. To them a fall of snow means neither social nor a break in the continuity of a smooth-going life; it implies only a sudden scarcity of employment, dear provisions, an empty larder, the soup kitchen, the Dorcas Society, or the workhouse. Even in the best of weather and the most prosperous of seasons these poor people are verging on want, and are rarely troubled with a superfluity of clothing or a surplus house accommodation. Such a storm as that which has now visited us will throw them out of work, and compel the homeless to seek the cold shelter which the state ordains for such as they. There are three other classes for whom "a fine old-fashioned" December can bring but indifferent joy. These are the very old, the very young, and the invalid. Aged people and young children are like tender plants; carefully nurtured, the latter may survive to maturity, and the former may reach beyond the allotted span of ordinary life. Yet the moment they are exposed to a cold snap their sensitive frames feel it, and the length of our ordinary columns is visibly swelled. The invalid never finds the English climate much to his mind, and he dreads the approach of winter. The wealthy may escape to warmer climates, and there change their sky and escape the chill blast and whitened meads which Kingsley so loved and sung. In a few hours the consumptive may be in a region where there is sunshine while our skies are black and cold, or in the course of a few days he may voyage to a land where there is neither hail, nor rain, nor any snow. Already hundreds of these fortunate ones have escaped to the south coast. At Madeira, in the Hospices on the shores of the Riviera, amid the orange groves of Tangier they live a new life. There it is needless uttering the meteorological conventionalities about the day being fine, for the sky is always blue. Yet never can the shivering Britons sigh more ardently for summer than do their expatriated countrymen for the chilly blasts, the ice-covered lakes, and the whitened fields of the isles of winter. The languid life of the snowless land is to an Englishman tiresome and enervating; for if he lives for a season to eat the Lotus, he longs, also, for a time when he will bend himself to the oar.—*Standard*.

ENGLAND'S INFLUENCE ABROAD.

Negotiations between England and France on the subject of Egypt, says the *Standard*, never be conducted in a practical spirit, or with any chance of a satisfactory issue, unless the recognition on both sides that England is the protector of Egypt, and that if it admits any Power to a share in that protection, even ostensibly, it will only be because England values its friendship and goodwill. The friendship and goodwill of France are not undervalued in this country, but even they are not so important as the certainty that Egypt must not again become, first, a public scandal and next a public peril. Many persons, doubtless, observed a telegram from our correspondent in Athens yesterday, in which it is recorded that the foreign merchants and private persons residing in Egypt, in writing to their friends at home, dwell upon the blessing of England as having been preserved to the country by its presence, and testify how ardently the trading and industrial classes desire that English rule and English administration should not be withdrawn. "Intelligent natives, as well as the majority of the foreign residents in Egypt, are recognising the fact that the prolonged rule of the indefinitely prolonged rule of the British. In any case, to desert Egypt before its peaceful and orderly government is thoroughly assured—and this must necessarily be a work of time—would be nothing less than a crime against civilization." These are the opinions of men who have lived in Egypt, and laboured at one time or its own advancement. The same view is expressed in even stronger language by M. de Lavallée in the current number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, and when the editor of the *Revue* writes in a Continental Liberal of Liberals, who has been preaching the virtue of self-government in season and out of season, it is difficult to resist the conclusion that a duty lies before this country such as has rarely been presented to it on unequal terms. It is one from which it would be criminal to shrink. Whether Sir Evelyn Wood or some other English soldier of distinction be chosen to organise and command the Khedive's Army, certain it is that, outside English assistance, there is no permanent security for Egypt. Our own share of interest in its stability and progress is even greater; since the Fellahs their rice and cotton fields, and the annual overflow of the Nile would in any case remain, whilst we have a mighty Empire at stake, the two main points of which are about equidistant from Cairo. By all means let everything be done that can be done reasonably and safely to meet the wishes and to save the interests of France. But the French people should remember that wherever they meet outside Europe they meet us on unequal terms. We do not want to be ungenerous. But we must be just to ourselves.

FATAL FIRE NEAR HALIFAX.—Shortly before midnight a fire of an alarming character broke out at Bakersland Mill, near Halifax, owned by Messrs. Sutcliffe, and partly occupied by themselves and partly by Messrs. Balmley. It originated in the top room, but by one, while the mill was working, for it works by day and night. Owing to the great snowstorm a fire-engine could not be obtained before the mill was completely gutted. One man, named Jagger, was killed by a falling wall, and some of the workpeople were injured, one having an arm broken in escaping from the burning mass. The mill was an extensive one, and the damage done will be very considerable.

FIRES IN THEATRES.

The destruction of the Alhambra Theatre by fire, an event which should greatly strengthen the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and of the Lord Chamberlain in insisting upon the provision of ample means of egress from all places of public entertainment, is so much another instance of the London, the fire did not break out until long after the departure of the audience; so that the only lives imperilled were those of the firemen who were engaged in endeavouring to subdue the flames, and of whom five were slightly, and two very seriously injured. It is monstrous, however, that a continuance of such good fortune as this is not to be reckoned upon, for the causes of accidental burning must be more active during theatrical performances than after their termination; and when we consider that only a few minutes suffice for the discovery of the fire, and its complete mastery of the building, we cannot but perceive that so short a time would have given no possibility of safe exit to a large and excited audience. This rapidity of combustion must, almost necessarily, occur in all theatres which are not divided into practically separate parts by fire-proof partitions; inasmuch as the dryness produced by the heat of the gas habitually consumed, and the highly inflammable nature of the scenery, properties, and decorations, provide the most favourable conditions for combustion. The value of Captain Shaw's recommendation that theatres should be thus divided is well illustrated by the fact that the painting-room at the Alhambra is reported to have been the scene of a fire, which, but for the folding doors, which shut out the flames. In other parts, so rapid was their ascendancy that the head fireman on duty, after a minute or two spent in the adjustment of hydrants, had difficulty in conveying his report to the manager, who, and, if the fire had commenced a few hours earlier, there can be no doubt that it would have occasioned a loss of life parallel to that at the Ring Theatre of Vienna, the theatre at Nice, or at the Brooklyn Theatre, New York. About the time of the fire at the Alhambra, a theatre at Belleville was destroyed by the ignited wad of a pistol which had been fired upon the stage, and which lodged unseen beneath some decorations, where it smouldered for some time before being discovered. In the case of the Alhambra the fire was first discovered in the auditorium, in the dress-circle or in the balcony, and it is, therefore, possible that it may have been connected with the audience. A faller sign of the time being indicated by the fact that the burning of a theatre is hardly to be regarded as an accident, but as an almost inevitable result of the proceedings conducted within the walls. Given the high degree of combustibility already referred to, the habitual use of many gas lamps, the use of the electric light, of coloured lights for scenic purposes, and add to these conditions the inevitable carelessness of human nature in the face of accustomed conditions however dangerous, and the nightly gathering together of large audiences, many among whom will be preparing to smoke as they leave the building, and we have a combination in which so many elements of risk are brought together that there is scarcely a possibility of continued escape. The correctness of this view is amply illustrated by the fact that the Alhambra Theatre, which was destroyed by fire in the twenty years between 1856 and 1875; and since then the fires we have already referred to have occurred, and the Park Theatre has been burned in London. There have been other instances of the same kind, and once suggest themselves to the recollection. Captain Shaw's list for the twenty years comprises a second burning of Covent Garden Theatre, three of the Namur Theatre, a second of the Glasgow Theatre, a second of the Surrey Theatre, a second of Her Majesty's Theatre, a second of the Hull Theatre, a fourth of one Opera House in Paris, and a fifth of another. It does not include instances in which theatres have been damaged by fire without being destroyed; and it errs, at least, in overlooking the fact that the Alhambra Theatre, which was destroyed by fire, was also the theatre in which the fire of 1875 occurred, and which, as Captain Shaw adds to it figures which bring into great prominence the frightful danger to life which such fires occasion when they occur during performances, and also the danger to adjacent property which they occasion at all times, and which is increased by the heat developed by the rapid combustion, and of the tendency thus given to the flames to spread. At the Drury-lane fire of 1872, 60 houses were destroyed in addition to the theatre; in the Saragossa fire of 1878 more than 600 persons lost their lives, and in the fire at the Carlisle Theatre in 1877, at the Ring Theatre the number that perished was estimated at 500; and at the Brooklyn Theatre it was over 200; while in both these instances, from the audiences being largely composed of persons in the habit of going to the theatre, the fire was not extinguished until it had reached the city streets, and it was found that it had been missing from the date of the fire, but the people with whom he lodged had not taken the trouble to inquire about him, so that the cause of his disappearance would have remained unknown if it had not been for the circumstances of the case. In London, as has hitherto been exempt from such frightful catastrophes; but who can foresee the duration of our immunity? If fires in theatres are to some extent inevitable, it must also be inevitable that they sometimes occur when audiences are present.—*Times*.

THE HEALTH OF MR. FAWCETT.

The *British Medical Journal* says:—"Mr. Fawcett's serious illness presents several points of most interest to the medical profession. It is an instance of the rare co-existence of diphtheria and typhoid fever, which Dr. Murchison, in his large experience, appears to have met with only once, and which is occasionally mentioned by other authors, chiefly foreign, who lay much stress on the gravity of the complication. Mr. Fawcett first fell ill on November 23, with general malaise, feverishness, and sore throat. The throat was red and glistening, and four days subsequently, true diphtheritic patches were found on the uvula and the left tonsil, afterwards extending to the roof of the mouth. There was no enlargement of the cervical glands. Under appropriate treatment, the patches on the throat became loose, and separated on December 2. Since that date the diphtheritic symptoms have not been so urgent, although the exudation reappeared for a few days, and even still the throat shows traces of the disease. It is worthy of note that there was also an erysipelatous redness on the face, and the presence of albuminuria was noted as early as the first week of the attack. The medical attendants first felt justified in announcing the presence of typhoid fever on December 2, although it is not until the 11th of the month that the disease was definitely established. Since the 2nd of December several of the symptoms of typhoid fever—such as the state of the tongue, the rash on the skin, the enlargement of the spleen, the congestion of the lungs, and the abdominal symptoms—have

been typical. Other important signs, characteristic of typhoid fever, have also been present. Thus, the temperature, which has varied from 102deg. to 103deg., has not shown the usual temperature curve of typhoid fever. Instead of the evening rise and morning fall of temperature, typical of typhoid fever, the thermometer has, on several occasions, been stationary the whole twenty-four hours, and on others has risen in the morning and fallen in the evening. The pulse has never risen above 104, and the signs of nervous disturbance have been excessive, and out of proportion to the degree of excitement. Roughly speaking, then, for the first ten days, the diphtheria was the dominant disease, and subsequently the signs of enteric fever have prevailed, although many of the usual signs of both diseases have been either modified or altogether absent. We confine ourselves to this short general outline of Mr. Fawcett's case, which is most instructive, quite apart from the personality of the distinguished patient. His condition must necessarily continue to cause anxiety for some time; but we are glad to announce that, up to the hour of going to press, the symptoms were encouraging."

THE SNOW-STORMS.

RAILWAYS BLOCKED.

Reports received from the north state that the snow-storms continue with great severity. Traffic on the roads is suspended in many places, trains are delayed in some cases, and in others are altogether stopped. The Telegraph Department of the General Post Office states that there is considerable delay in the transmission of telegrams from the north of England generally, and to Scotland and Ireland. Snow began to fall in London soon after eleven o'clock on Thursday morning; but in the city it melted as it fell. There has been very heavy fall of snow in Darlington and South Devon this morning. On the moors snow is nearly two feet deep. In Yorkshire snow fell almost incessantly on Wednesday, and was drifted to such a depth by the high wind as completely to stop traffic in many of the more exposed districts. The railway service over the North-Eastern line is interrupted at several points. No train has reached Barrow from Sheffield or Manchester since Wednesday night, and only one train has succeeded in getting through from Penistone. On the Manchester and Sheffield line, a train which left Manchester at five on Wednesday night, only reached Sheffield at half-past ten on Thursday morning. Great destruction has been wrought among the overhead telegraph-wires at Manchester. The heaviest snowstorms ever experienced commenced in Cheshire on Wednesday night. The snow was drifted to a considerable depth by a violent gale. The Great Western railway officials were busy all Wednesday night endeavouring to maintain the service, but the snow was so severe, and snowed up and delayed on several points between Chester and Shrewsbury. On the London and North-Western line between Chester and Holyhead the traffic was only kept open with great difficulty.

The weather is now very severe, and snow has been falling almost continuously for several days. The results are becoming serious. Most of the country roads throughout Northampton, Lancashire, and East Perthshire are blocked, and all traffic is suspended. In some districts, carriers have been obliged to leave their vehicles on the road and made for the nearest towns. In Dumfriesshire and the south of Lanarkshire, much snow-drifting has occurred that railway traffic has been greatly impeded. On Wednesday it was with great difficulty that the Caledonian Railway could be kept open between Beattock Summit and Carlisle. Snow-ploughs and gangs of men were at work all day; but, owing to the drifting, the lines almost immediately became blocked again. The roads are generally so covered with snow that it is impossible to get on foot. Several places are cut off from communication with the rest of the world, except by telegraph, and the villages of Leadhills and Wanlockhead have been isolated since Monday. The snowstorm has almost totally interrupted telegraphic communication between Glasgow and London. Upon nearly all the branch lines of the Caledonian Railway traffic is suspended, and the efforts of the company are being directed to keeping the main line clear. All the lochs in the neighbourhood of Glasgow are frozen.

Throughout South Wales on Wednesday and Thursday there were serious interruptions in the railway traffic caused by the snow-drifts. A passenger train upon the Festiniog railway is supposed to have been buried, as no trace has been heard of it since it started for Bala. A snow-plough has been sent in search of it. Gangs of men have been employed upon the line, the snow having drifted to an enormous depth in the Vale of Llangollen. Many of the roads are entirely impassable, and the railways are completely blocked. Several places are cut off from communication with the rest of the world, except by telegraph, and the villages of Leadhills and Wanlockhead have been isolated since Monday. The snowstorm has almost totally interrupted telegraphic communication between Glasgow and London. Upon nearly all the branch lines of the Caledonian Railway traffic is suspended, and the efforts of the company are being directed to keeping the main line clear. All the lochs in the neighbourhood of Glasgow are frozen.

The *Daily News* says:—"In the course of Thursday London experienced a taste of the snow which has fallen so heavily in many parts of the country, and for a time at least the streets of the metropolis were completely hidden by the proverbially spotless covering. To those uninitiated in the mysteries of modern weather knowledge it may appear strange that the southerly winds and mild weather of Sunday last and the bitter easterly gales of Monday have since prevailed. Should both have been due to the action and movements of the same barometrical depression. So long ago as Saturday, when London was covered with a thick cold fog, and the barometer in this part of the country was rising, the first signs of the depression were visible at the Irish and Scotch stations, where the mercury was beginning to fall quickly, with southerly winds, an increasing temperature, and rain. By Sunday the centre of the advancing disturbance was found to the north-westward of Scotland, and a decided current of air from the southward or south-westward had set in over the entire Kingdom. In England the thermometer had risen very rapidly, and the readings of Sunday morning were in some instances as high as 47 or 48 degrees higher than on Saturday. During the whole of Sunday the depression seems to have remained almost motionless off the Hebrides, but in the course of the ensuing night its centre travelled quickly in a south-easterly direction, and on Monday morning the principal part of the disturbance was found off the coast of Berwickshire. In consequence of this change the wind, which always flies round these low pressure systems, veered to the north-eastward on the western and southern coasts, and blew rather strongly in some places, while in the north of Scotland it backed to the south-eastward and increased to a gale. Rain was reported from many parts of the country, but snow had not yet set in at any but a few of the Scotch stations. By Monday evening the centre of the depression was again to be still moving in a north-westerly direction, but much more slowly than on the previous night, and as a brisk rise of the barometer had begun to take place in the north of Scotland there were some considerable differences at our more northern stations, and the gale consequently increased in strength, with heavy squalls of sleet and snow. In Scotland, the main portion of the heavy snowfall was experienced on Tuesday. The depression, which had by this time reached the mouth of the Wash, continued to

travel very slowly, and as the barometer still rose briskly in the north, the gales gradually extended to the northern parts of England and Ireland. In direction the wind was generally north-easterly or easterly, and a very heavy sea was consequently running off the east of Scotland, and north-east of England. Snow now fell continuously in Scotland, Wales, and the north of England, and was in many places drifted by the strong wind into wreaths and banks of considerable depth. On Wednesday the low pressure system lay between the coasts of Norfolk and Essex, and seemed inclined to disappear. Snow still fell in all the northern districts, and the gales in Scotland had subsided, and as the day advanced the sky cleared considerably, and the snow also ceased. In other parts of the country it continued all Wednesday, and also throughout the greater part of Thursday.

In reading of heavy snowfalls the mind naturally wanders back through the vistas of memory and the records of history in search of similar occurrences. In these recollections, with the fearful storm of January, 1881, fresh in our minds, we have not far to look for as heavy a snowfall as any on record. Their miseries of that day are so well known that it is quite unnecessary to do more than remark how business in the great metropolis was entirely suspended for many hours, while the snow-storms continued with great severity. Traffic on the roads is suspended in many places, trains are delayed in some cases, and in others are altogether stopped. The Telegraph Department of the General Post Office states that there is considerable delay in the transmission of telegrams from the north of England generally, and to Scotland and Ireland. Snow began to fall in London soon after eleven o'clock on Thursday morning; but in the city it melted as it fell. There has been very heavy fall of snow in Darlington and South Devon this morning. On the moors snow is nearly two feet deep. In Yorkshire snow fell almost incessantly on Wednesday, and was drifted to such a depth by the high wind as completely to stop traffic in many of the more exposed districts. The railway service over the North-Eastern line is interrupted at several points. No train has reached Barrow from Sheffield or Manchester since Wednesday night, and only one train has succeeded in getting through from Penistone. On the Manchester and Sheffield line, a train which left Manchester at five on Wednesday night, only reached Sheffield at half-past ten on Thursday morning. Great destruction has been wrought among the overhead telegraph-wires at Manchester. The heaviest snowstorms ever experienced commenced in Cheshire on Wednesday night. The snow was drifted to a considerable depth by a violent gale. The Great Western railway officials were busy all Wednesday night endeavouring to maintain the service, but the snow was so severe, and snowed up and delayed on several points between Chester and Shrewsbury. On the London and North-Western line between Chester and Holyhead the traffic was only kept open with great difficulty.

The following telegrams were published in London on Friday morning:—
ACCRINGTON.—Some Yorkshire trains due at Accrington at 10.30 arrived at 1 o'clock yesterday. Three goods waggoners left the metal at Gannow, near Burnley, and stopped the railway entirely one line. The railway was closed, and the goods were delayed. A slight thaw prevailed yesterday.

BARNESLEY.—Last night the members of the Barnesley Salvation Army narrowly escaped a shocking end, owing to the sudden collapse of the building in which they were holding a service. The building was a large skating rink, capable of accommodating four thousand persons. The building was about 200 feet long and 50 feet wide, and was built with scanty brick walls and a large half-circular zinc roof, without pillars inside. A large number of the men were on the roof, and the roof, caused this to press out the outer walls, and the whole suddenly collapsed. An hour later a large company would have been in the building.

BIRMINGHAM.—A terrific gale prevailed in Birmingham on Wednesday night, and ships were blown about by the wind, and the gale of clovelly were caught in it; and it is reported no less than 20 boats were driven ashore, and stove in, with loss of gear. One boat was sunk, and two men named Richard and John were drowned. A widow with four children, were drowned.

BRIGHTON.—There was a continuous fall of snow throughout yesterday at Brighton, the first of any amount this year. In the centre of the town the snow melted as it fell, but on the outskirts it lay to a depth of several inches. At sunset there was no appearance of its ceasing. The weather was calm.

BURNLEY.—The streets were almost impassable in Burnley, the snow being several inches deep. Vehicular traffic was very seriously impeded, and the Pullman express, due at Burnley at six o'clock on Wednesday evening, arrived at ten minutes past four yesterday afternoon. The night had been spent near Denham station, three miles behind the other express. The Pullman car was set apart for the ladies during the night, and the culinary staff were ordered to prepare a special dinner for the most to provide food for the belated travellers. The weather during the night was fearfully wild and stormy. The North British line is still blocked between Carlisle and Edinburgh, only one train having come through during the day. A letter telegraph was in use. All the three Scotch lines from Carlisle are now blocked. There has been no train by North British since the forenoon, except local. The Caledonian is blocked north of Beattock, and no train has arrived from further north since about one o'clock. The Glasgow and South-Western is this evening blocked at Sanquhar.

CONSETT.—The weather is intensely severe in the Consett district, and the snow is four feet deep, drifting in places to seven feet high. Many roads in the neighbourhood are completely blocked. The train service between Saltburn and Consett has been stopped, and no train has reached the latter place for two days. On Thursday night the whole of the Consett Ironworks with its collieries laid off all the steam subsides. Nearly eight thousand hands are thus thrown idle.

CREST.—Our Chester correspondent telegraphs:—"The Great Western Railway officials have found the train which started on Wednesday night at six o'clock from Festiniog for Bala, embedded in four feet of snow on the hills between Trawsfynydd and Arenig stations. The railway officials, amid the most tremendous difficulties, cut their way through the deep snow to Arenig station by means of a steam plough. They then ascertained that the lost train was securely embedded in the snow-drift a mile beyond, and that in addition to the driver, stoker, and guard there were two unfortunate passengers, who had been incarcerated in the carriages without food all night. After great difficulties were overcome, the train was extricated, and the train, and food and warm clothing were forwarded. The rescuing party are now pluckily engaged cutting their way through the snow to rescue the belated travellers, and it is confidently hoped they will be dug out before the traffic can be fully restored. A later to-night by the steam plough and the willing co-operation of the people of the district.

Such a fearful storm as that of last night has not been experienced throughout North Wales for many years. One of the passengers is stated to have suffered so severely from the exposure that his life is in danger.

CUTTIGRO.—The violence of the snowstorm and the delay occasioned by it at Clitheroe yesterday and the previous night were altogether unprecedented. Three Scotch express trains were snowed up, and two of them were delayed eight hours and another five hours. One train which should have arrived at half-past ten last night steamed into the station at twenty minutes past six yesterday morning. The trains were seriously delayed yesterday, and telegraphic communication and vehicular traffic greatly impeded. The snow has in places drifted to a depth of six feet.

DARLINGTON.—The passenger train from Teesdale, due here Wednesday evening, arrived yesterday afternoon. The through line to Manchester by Killy Stephen opened the Westmoreland Fells is stopped and traffic between the east and west coasts has to go via Leeds. It will take a day or two in some cases to get the lines clear unless the thaw which set in last night, accompanied by rain, should act rapidly.

DARWEN.—At Darwen, owing to the heavy fall of snow, tram traffic has been entirely suspended. Relays of men were employed all day clearing the track, which extends to Blackburn. In the Turton and Ribblesdale districts the fall has been exceptionally heavy, and many of the roads are blocked up. At Cloughfold House Farm a flock of sheep were buried under the snow, and yesterday morning a number were extricated alive, but several still remain buried under the drift.

DEWLEIGH.—The death bodies of two unknown men were found in a snowdrift on the highway between Driffield and Bridlington, East Yorkshire, yesterday morning. They were huddled together, and must have perished in a fearful storm. The bodies were found by a local constable, and were immediately buried in the snow. The snow was several feet deep, and the bodies were found in a snowdrift on the highway between Driffield and Bridlington, East Yorkshire, yesterday morning. They were huddled together, and must have perished in a fearful storm. The bodies were found by a local constable, and were immediately buried in the snow. The snow was several feet deep, and the bodies were found in a snowdrift on the highway between Driffield and Bridlington, East Yorkshire, yesterday morning. They were huddled together, and must have perished in a fearful storm. The bodies were found by a local constable, and were immediately buried in the snow. 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Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 7-8, 1882.

THE WATHER IN ENGLAND.

The snowstorm, which for a week past has been slowly travelling southward, has at last reached London, and the Metropolis is now encircled by a girdle of more or less unsullied whiteness. The fall has been widespread. The telegrams which we print elsewhere show that it has extended over the entire extent of the British Islands, while the more northern parts of the Continent have been visited by it to such a degree as to block the roads and bring traffic to a standstill. Where the storm has been accompanied by severe frosts, as in Denmark and Finland, it has caused the closing of the Baltic and the suspension of all communication between the Island of Zealand and the neighbouring shores. Happily, in our latitudes the frost is never so intense as to impede maritime navigation, and rarely even the traffic on canals, rivers, and lakes. But in Scotland and the North of England we hear of railways being blocked, of country roads being impassable, and of the telegraph lines being broken by the heavy load of snow or by the drifts which the wind has piled against them. The storm threatens to continue, and it had better weather sets in, we may experience something of the doubtful pleasure implied by an "old-fashioned Christmas." However, such is the fickleness of the English climate, that before another day elapses the misery of a thaw may be upon us, with all the slush, damp fogs, coughs, colds, and pulmonary wretchedness that follow in its train. This changeableness of the weather is one of the principal reasons why we find either much heat or unusual cold so trying. In this country we are not prepared for either. Every summer we have a few extremely hot days, and occasionally a week characterised by a sun as torrid as that of Calcutta, though, owing to the comparative dryness of the air, not quite so exhausting. Yet we make no preparation for it, hoping that it is only an exception to the rule that our July and August should be temperate when compared with the summers of equatorial regions. Again, as was the case in January, 1881, the entire country is swaddled in snow all winter as thick as that which covers Canada during the winter months, and we shiver under a sky as inhospitable as that which drives the Russian to his furs. But both the hot July and the cold January come upon us, and find us without adequate protection or defence. Our houses are fitted for average weather, our clothes for average seasons, and our municipal arrangements, framed with no such contingency as a snowstorm in view, break down completely under the extra pressure put upon them. The streets are impassable, the cabs, omnibuses, and tramway cars are stopped, and London is saved the horrors of a blockade solely owing to the fact that the Railway Companies are better able to rout the Snow King, before whom Common Council and Common Carrier alike succumb. Winter, however, finds the further North not only prepared for it, but ready to welcome its advent as a happy relief from sultry days, rainy roads, and the plague of mosquitoes. It is terrible to imagine what would be the sanitary condition of a score of Russian villages were they never visited by a fall of snow. All the refuse of the household and the slaughter-house is tossed outside the doors and permitted to fester where it falls, until the "Kjokken modding" assumes proportions which would give a scientific nightmare to any sound hygienist. Fortunately, however, just as the pile is beginning to breed typhoid and the other ills that dirt is heir to, the snow arrives and Nature's antiseptic covers every thing with a mantle through which zymotic germs can never penetrate. In a few months more the thaw comes, and the rivers of melting slush course over the ground, carrying with them the foul refuse heaps, so that by May or June the moulting may begin his easy-going domestic economy in the old routine. Russia is still a land of few railways, and of roads which can only be called so by courtesy. Yet the first fall of snow converts the worst forest track over which a tarantass ever stumbled, into a surface as smooth as the Nevski Prospect. The rude carriage which makes "travel the fool's paradise" is dismounted, and for the next five months runs on the noiseless sleds. Towns which only communicate by means of pack-horses are now busy exchanging courtesies and commodities over the snow, and the weary way from Tobolsk to the Cis-Caspian wastes is alive with streams of sledges passing and repassing, despite the short days and the iron sky. Social intercourse is renewed in the country, and the gay city season begins. The snow, therefore, which in the South severs mankind, unites them in the North, and, instead of dislocating the fabric of Society, binds it together more firmly than before. It is the same, in a greater or less degree, in Canada, in the Western and New England States, in Denmark, in Sweden, in Norway, and even in Northern Germany and Poland. In the still further North, in Greenland and Labrador, and among the lonely fur-trading forts that dot the country still lovingly known as Rupert's Land, the winter is never dreaded, though it is just possible that, like other genial visitors, it grows painfully monotonous before the June sun dissipates the last of the snow, which lingers in the shady places along the bleak rocks and the yellow poppy and the dwarf willow creep

among the dismal cover of *tripe de roche*. In Greenland the men or women who cannot sail in a leather boat must stay at home as soon as the "us-fod" disappears and the mollemoke makes noisy the cliffs bordering the lonely fjords. But the September snow is the signal for pleasant feasting and merrymaking. The dog sledges skims along the surface of the snow-covered frozen sea; the seal arrives on the coast; the reindeer and the ptarmigan are driven down to the lowlands, and life is made all the more tolerable that food is abundant, and some means of amusement possible in a country which, even if it be at the back of the north wind, the old Moravian priest considered one of the most cheerful in the world—"for there was always something to vary the sameness of life." Unfortunately for the due appreciation of snow, we are not all Eskimos, and Greenland Dances, or Laps, have neither ungainly reindeer nor wolfish dogs to draw our sledges (if we had them), nor, like the Hyperboreans, flocks of reindeer to slay at will for food, light, and raiment. Hence the storm which is at present a qualified delight to a great number of people is to a multitude more an unredempted misery. They neither sleigh, nor skate, nor snowball. Their associations connect Christmas with the old-fashioned cold, and the lack of food which is the oldest of their wants. To them a fall of snow means neither social nor a break in the continuity of a smooth-going life; it implies only a sudden scarcity of employment, dearer visions, an empty larder, the soup kitchen, the Dorcas Society, or the workhouse. Even in the best of weather and the most prosperous of seasons these poor people are verging on want, and are rarely troubled with a superfluity of clothing or a surplus house accommodation. Such a storm as that which has now visited us will throw them out of work, and compel the homeless to seek the cold shelter which the State ordains for such as they. There are three other classes for whom a "fine old-fashioned" December can bring but indifferent joy. These are the very old, the very young, and the invalid. Aged people and young children are like tender plants; carefully nurtured, the latter may survive to maturity, and the former may reach beyond the allotted span of ordinary life. Yet the moment they are exposed to a cold snap their sensitive frames feel it, and the length of our obituary columns is visibly swelled. The invalid never finds the English climate so kind to his mind, and he dreads the approach of winter. The wealthy may escape to warmer climates, and there change their sky and escape the chill blast and whitened meads which Kingsley so loved and sung. In a few hours the consumptive may be in a region where there is sunshine while our skies are black and cold, or in the course of a few days he may voyage to a land where there is neither hail, nor rain, nor any snow. Already hundreds of these fortunate ones have escaped into self-exile. At Madeira, in the Hesperides, on the shores of the Riviera, amid the orange groves of Tangier they live a new life. There it is needless uttering the meteorological conventionality about the day being fine, for the sky is always blue. Yet never can the shivering Britons sigh more ardently for summer than do their expatriated countrymen for the chilly blasts, the ice-covered lakes, and the whitened fields of the isles of winter. The languid life of the snowless land is to an Englishman tiresome and enervating; for if he lives for a season to eat the Lotus, he longs, also, for a time when he will bend himself to the oar.—*Standard.*

ENGLAND'S INFLUENCE ABROAD.
Negotiations between England and France on the subject of Egypt, says the *Standard*, never be conducted in a practical spirit, or with any chance of a satisfactory issue, unless it be recognised on both sides that England is the protector of Egypt, and that if it admits any other Power to a share in that protection, even ostensibly, it will only be because England values its friendship and goodwill.—
The friendship and goodwill of France are not underrated in this country, and they are not so important as is certainly the case. Egypt must not again become, first a public scandal and next a public peril. Many persons, doubtless, observed a telegram from our correspondent in Athens yesterday, in which it is recorded that the foreign merchants and private persons residing in Egypt are writing to their friends at home, dwell upon the blessing England has already conferred upon the country by its presence, and testify how ardently the trading and industrial classes desire that English rule and English administration should not be withdrawn. "Interested natives, as well as the majority of the foreign settlers in Egypt, desire nothing so fervently as the prolonged rule—the indefinitely prolonged rule of the British. In any case, to desert Egypt before its peaceful and orderly government is thoroughly assured—and this must necessarily be a work of time—would be nothing less than a crime against civilization." These are the opinions of men who have lived in Egypt, and laboured at once for their own and their country's advancement. The same view is expressed in a strong language by M. de Lavalley in the current number of the *Fortnightly Review*; and when we remember that the writer is a Continental Liberal, of Liberals, who has been preaching in England for years, and who has seen season and out of season, it is difficult to resist the conclusion that a duty lies before this country such as has rarely been presented to it, and one from which it would be criminal to shrink. Whether Sir Evelyn Wood or some other English soldier of distinction be chosen to organise and command the Khedive's Army, certain it is that, outside English assistance, there is no permanent salvation for Egypt. Our own share of interest in its stability and progress is even greater; since the Fellahs, their rice and cotton fields, and the annual overflow of the Nile would in any case remain, whilst we have a mighty Empire at stake, the two main points of which are about equidistant from Cairo. By all means let everything be done that can be done to ensure the safety and the welfare of the French people should remember that wherever they meet us outside Europe they meet us on unequal terms. We do not want to be ungenerous. But we must be just to ourselves.

FATAL FIRE NEAR HALIFAX.—Shortly before midnight a fire of an alarming character broke out at Bakersland Mill, near Halifax, owned by Messrs. Sutcliffe, and partly occupied by themselves and partly by Messrs. Bottomley. It originated in the top room but, while the mill was working, for it works by day and night. Owing to the great snowstorm a fire-engine could not be obtained before the mill was completely gutted. One man, named Jagger, was killed by a falling wall, and some other English soldier of distinction be chosen to organise and command the Khedive's Army, certain it is that, outside English assistance, there is no permanent salvation for Egypt. Our own share of interest in its stability and progress is even greater; since the Fellahs, their rice and cotton fields, and the annual overflow of the Nile would in any case remain, whilst we have a mighty Empire at stake, the two main points of which are about equidistant from Cairo. By all means let everything be done that can be done to ensure the safety and the welfare of the French people should remember that wherever they meet us outside Europe they meet us on unequal terms. We do not want to be ungenerous. But we must be just to ourselves.

THE HEALTH OF MR. FAWCETT.
The *British Medical Journal* says:—"Mr. Fawcett's serious illness presents several points of much interest to the medical profession. It is an instance of the rare co-existence of diphtheria and typhoid fever, which Dr. Murchison, in his large experience, has never met with only once, and which is only occasionally mentioned by other authors, chiefly foreign, who lay much stress on the gravity of the complication. Mr. Fawcett suffered from diphtheria, with general malaise, feverishness, and sore throat, and throat was red and glistening, and, four days subsequently, true diphtheritic patches were found on the uvula and the left tonsil, after which the condition of the throat improved, and on December 2. Since that date the diphtheritic symptoms have not been so urgent, although the exudation reappeared for a few days, and even still the throat shows traces of the disease. It is worthy of note that there was also an erysipelatous redness on the face, and the presence of albuminuria was noted as early as the first week of the attack. The medical attendants first felt justified in announcing the presence of typhoid fever on December 2, although its co-existence with the diphtheria had been suspected almost from the first. Since the 2nd of December several of the symptoms of typhoid fever—such as the state of the tongue, the rash on the skin, the enlargement of the spleen, the congestion of the lungs, and the abdominal symptoms—have

FIRES IN THEATRES.
The destruction of the Alhambra Theatre by fire is an event which should greatly strengthen the hands of the Metropolitan Board of Works, and of the Lord Chamberlain, in insisting upon the provision of ample means of egress from all places of public entertainment. As in so many other instances in London, the fire did not break out until long after the departure of the audience; so that the only lives imperilled were those of the firemen, who were engaged in endeavouring to subdue the flames, and of whom five were slightly, and two very seriously injured. It is manifest, however, that a continuance of such good fortune as this is not to be reckoned upon, and that the safety of the public must be more active during theatrical performances than after their termination; and when we consider that only a few minutes elapsed between the discovery of the fire and its complete mastery of the building, we cannot but perceive that so short a time would have given no possibility of safe exit to a large and excited audience. This rapidity of combustion must, almost of necessity, occur in all theatres which are not divided into practically separate parts by fire-proof partitions; inasmuch as the dryness produced by the heat of the gas habitually consumed, and the highly inflammable nature of the scenery, properties, and decorations, provide the most favourable possible circumstances for the promotion of active combustion. The value of Captain Shaw's recommendation that theatres should be thus divided is well illustrated by the fact that the painting-room at the Alhambra is reported to have escaped in consequence of its being provided with iron folding-doors, which shut out the flames. In other parts, so rapid was their ascendancy that the head fireman on duty, after a minute or two spent in the adjustment of hydrants, had difficulty in controlling the fire, and it was not until a few minutes later, when the fire had commenced a few hours earlier, there can be no doubt that it would have occasioned a loss of life parallel to that at the Ring Theatre of Vienna, the theatre at Leeds, or at the Brooklyn Theatre, New York. A few minutes' delay in the fire at the Alhambra, and any certainty will ever be obtained. A theatre at Belleville was destroyed by the ignited wad of a pistol which had been fired upon the stage, and which lodged unseen beneath some decorations, where it smouldered for some time before bursting into flame. In the case of the Alhambra the fire was first discovered in the auditorium, in the dress-circle or in the balcony, and it is, therefore, possible that it may have been connected with the audience. A few minutes' delay in the fire at the Alhambra, and any certainty will ever be obtained. A theatre at Belleville was destroyed by the ignited wad of a pistol which had been fired upon the stage, and which lodged unseen beneath some decorations, where it smouldered for some time before bursting into flame. In the case of the Alhambra the fire was first discovered in the auditorium, in the dress-circle or in the balcony, and it is, therefore, possible that it may have been connected with the audience. 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LONDON, DECEMBER 9-10, 1882.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

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Either the French newspapers misrepresent popular opinion on the other side of the Channel when they discuss the Egyptian question, and, what is more, are almost without exception at variance with the Government, or we are likely to come to loggerheads with France in the Nile Valley. War we do not mean; though it is becoming more and more evident that if our allies were not hampered in their relations with other Powers we should find the words *cassus belli* pretty often just now in French despatches as well as in French newspapers. Indeed, that very important journal the *République Française* goes as near to the menace of war as can be done without running some risk of the ridiculous. The editor of M. Gambetta's paper says:—"We shall not go to war with England because of her seeking to appropriate the share of influence in Egypt which belongs to us; but we shall endeavour to preserve it by what may seem the fittest means. There can no longer, therefore, be any question of an Anglo-French understanding. The British Government deems itself empowered to pursue a purely selfish and personal policy, to the detriment of French interests. We shall use the liberty given us for the purpose of safeguarding them to the best of our power." The spirit here displayed is also seen in such

journals as the *Temps* and the *Débats*. What we are to clearly understand is that to talk of compensations is to talk in vain. If France seeks extension of empire and trade in Tunis, in Madagascar in Tong-king, and elsewhere, she does so by virtue of independent right, which is not for England to interfere with under any circumstances. The rights of France in Egypt stand apart; and although she is now compelled to submit for the moment to being robbed of them, they will remain hers, and there must be an end to all pretence of an Anglo-French alliance till they are surrendered. This is to state the claims and the menaces of the French in the least exaggerated form; and what we are inclined to say about them is, that the better course would be to lose as little time as possible in rejecting the one explicitly, and in showing off-hand that we are not intimidated by the other. For ourselves, we feel all the more free to recommend that line of conduct because we have always maintained that the French have a perfect right to gain for themselves, if they can, as much as we have. As regards Egypt, it is not only an equal share of authority with England in the Nile Valley but sole control. But it is none the less our business to prevent their doing either; and besides, success in the contest means a vast deal more for us than it could possibly mean for the French. Further, our allies take false ground when they pretend that we either have robbed them or propose to rob them of their rights and interests in Egypt. The *condominium*, when it was established, was never meant to give to France a share in that political preponderance over the affairs of Egypt which all Europe, including France, has acknowledged to be of the highest importance for the safety of the British Empire. The *condominium* was intended to be superseded to-morrow by a British protectorate, all that the Dual Control was intended to secure to France would be yet more strongly safeguarded than ever. It was never pretended till now, and has never been acknowledged at all, that the French have need of protection in Egypt for any but their financial interests. No doubt those interests are very great (but so are those of Italy, for that matter); and it was because they were so great, and because of a desire to conciliate the French as closely as possible, that they were admitted with equal authority to a Dual Control from which all political questions were excluded. And it is not true that if Egypt were placed formally as well as in fact under the Government of England those interests would not only be as safe as ever but greatly enhanced. To admit the claims now advanced by France would be fatal.

—*St. James's Gazette.*

The Spectator says, "We should see with pleasure a further deviation from the common precedent in the elevation of the Dean of St. Paul's to the Primacy. We say this, not because we ourselves concur in the special theological opinions of the Dean—we suspect we should agree better in those of the Primate we have just lost—but because we doubt whether there be among the bishops of the present day one so once so thoroughly courageous, so thoroughly independent, so full of the profound belief that England may be Christianised, and of the determination to do all in his power to Christianise it, and yet so accomplished as a man of literature and therefore able to estimate the full strength of the world's views, as Dean Church. His great reserve, his modesty, and even shyness, far from being disadvantageous, would, we are persuaded, when combined with a sense of duty and a glowing courage like his, be positive advantages to an Archbishop. Nothing great has ever been done without the fervour of a burning mind, and such a mind is the Dean of St. Paul's. If the Church of England is to do great things in the coming times of which the late Archbishop speaks, as times of great change both in Church and State, it is a mind somewhat solitary in its habits, and full of glowing thoughts, like Dr. Church's, which may best be trusted to lead the way.

The Economist says:—Our principal care about his successor is that, whoever it may be, whatever party he belongs to, he should possess, like Dr. Tait, the quality of statesmanship. He is, in fact, perpetual chairman of that committee of the Church which exercises the power most nearly like that of governing. It is essential, therefore, that he should be a statesman; and this was the special character of Dr. Tait. An Archbishop of Canterbury who was a strong partisan would first dissolve the Church into separate dioceses, each bishop taking to his own care, and then render the Government of the Church so temperate and so placid, that the other one might succeed. An impracticable Archbishop, again, might irritate the statesmen, and make them favourable to disestablishment, while a weak one would induce them to go on their course irrespective of

the Church's opinion. It is a cool-headed, clear-thinking statesman, rather than a great ecclesiastic, who is required, and if the Premier cannot find one on the Bench—which we by no means affirm—he should follow old precedents, and venture to look lower down.

The Times says:—The Primate must have some dignity of person, expression, and carriage, though kindness and urbanity may go far to make up for some little shortcoming in this matter. He must have had some experience in the management of men. He must have had some professional experience, for he has to govern bishops, and should, therefore, have learnt to see questions from their point of view, and to understand their difficulties. By the same rule he ought to have discharged for some time the duties of a parish priest, or to have become familiar with those duties in the lives of those about him. He ought to have the manners and the conversational powers of the best society, for he has to hold his ground, and what may be called the Church's ground, among the greatest, the ablest, and the most highly educated in the land. He must have the intellectual and the requirements of the age, and should be able to contribute his quota to any discussion. He is bound to be enough of a lawyer to conduct safely as much of his old ecclesiastical jurisdiction as the Legislature has left in his hands, and to be a match for those of the clergy who make this their business, or their amusement. He has to be a scholar, if possible of the ripe old sort, and enough of a theologian to inspire respect for his teaching, and for his personal authority.

The Times says:—Broadly regarded, there cannot be a doubt that the result of the Liverpool election is a signal victory for the Ministerial party. The Government has largely recovered its popularity of late, and the authority and influence of the Opposition are on the wane. In order to oust its opponents a party in a minority must have a policy of its own, and must be ready on occasion to expound, explain, and enforce it. If it cannot do this, or if it will not do it, its fate as a party is sealed. We are convinced that the rational Conservatism of the country is wholly out of harmony with the purely negative and critical policy of the leaders of the Tory party. We believe that on the whole the country is in a progressive rather than a stationary mood, and the strength of the Government lies in the recognition of this fact.

The *Daily Telegraph* says:—The day, we may hope, is now not far distant when the great question of social legislation will be viewed everywhere in its true proportions, and every where assume the commanding place which belongs to it in the right. The social problem in our own country, even more than in any other, is fast taking the place of the older political issues. The claim of the poor is not for food that they may live, but for life that they may work. Temperance is difficult, thrift a mockery, self-improvement impossible in such dens as they inhabit. The Liverpool election has largely turned on the sudden recognition of those great and pressing facts. Liverpool feels that it is by the State alone that the poor can be rescued, and it is to the State that her people appeal. It is a hopeful sign of the times when the demand for legislation on behalf of the suffering classes takes precedence of all other issues at a contest in one of the greatest constituencies in England. It is, necessary, however, that this—the true meaning and moral of the Liverpool election—should be taken to heart by men of "light and lending". We have had enough of legislation in the air and the abstract. The country wants the problems of common social life taken in hand, and will elect the candidates who are for social amelioration quickly, simply and substantially.

and substantial support. Mr. Forwood says:—"The political morality of the 'Tory Democracy,' to which Mr. Forwood appealed, revolted against the introduction of the practices of a Dutch auction into political affairs. If party government exists in England, party lines should be adhered to. So far from there being anything to discourage the Conservative party in the issue of the pollings, there is the strongest reason for their being satisfied with it. It will, at least, leave Conservative candidates that it is a suicidal course to play fast and loose with principles. The full responsibility of Mr. Forwood's rejection does not rest with himself alone; it must be shared by the local managers of the Conservative party. They had no right to allow such a representative of Conservatism to contest the seat. He was an unpopular candidate with an unpopular cause, and we may add an unpopular speaker. Given these reasons, and no other, he was beaten by Mr. Smith. This is the real moral of the Liverpool election, and it is one that ought not to be either ignored or neglected."

Lord Wolseley has every right to speak in favour of the British army, declares the *Saturday Review*. It has justified the confidence he placed in it, and shown that he can do all that the most sanguine general can expect of it. On Tuesday Lord Wolseley exercised this right to the full:—

Count Molokic could hardly have displayed more enthusiasm in describing the wonderful instrument with which he conquered France and England, than he did in describing the troops with which Lord Wolseley defeated the Arabi. He said that he said it to them; but they will hardly escape an uneasy consciousness that to the soldiers of other nations the praise may seem a little exaggerated. The spirit of the regulation under which a certain number of regiments are always kept on a war footing was not adhered to; for, though the men sent out were all the more to be praised for this, this was only attained by making liberal drafts on the ranks. We are in the case again, but a Secretary of State under so many temptations to break a promise of this kind that there will be more room for confidence than has once been actual confidence. Nothing can be so plain as to say that the men who have been brought into action at the very beginning of the first campaign does not serve any of the purposes for which reserves are ordinarily intended. In the early days of short service the promise ran that the Reserve would go into action at the first call, and the colours could not be trusted to go into action until the Reserve had been added to it. No doubt, if we judge by the result in this particular instance, the plan may be said to have answered. In point of fact, every change with regard to the Reserve as well as the system has injured the Reserve as much as it has benefited the army with the colours. The military problem that ne-

awaits treatment is how to create a Reserve which shall give us some portion of the security which comes from compulsory service without the economical mischiefs which compulsory service necessarily brings with it.

The *Spektor*, at the risk of being ridiculed, offers a suggestion which it thinks might remove many difficulties with regard to Egypt. The great obstacle to a final settlement is the Sultan's suzerainty, and it is quite possible that the Sultan cannot, in the face of the old Turkish party, either transfer his right or grant to Egypt any further nominal independence :—

That seems an *impasse*; but has it not been understood all through these negotiations that whenever the Sultan is allowed by Europe to send a "Commissioner" to Egypt that Commissioner exercises the Sultan's full powers? The Commissioner is not a plenipotentiary; he was legally the Sultan's representative, and could even have dismissed and super-sided the Khedive, as was indeed done when Ismail was removed. If that is so, might not a solution be found in a European agreement that the Commissioner in Cairo should be sole Controller, and permanent "Commissioner" on behalf of the Sultan, who wants his tribute and his dignity, and not direct power? As the Sultan's Commissioner Lord Dufferin could meet the Egyptian Government on equal terms, and make the necessary changes, and reform nearly as far-reaching as he could if Queen Victoria were the suzerain: while the crux of the difficulty—the Sultan's nominal sovereignty—would remain unimpaired, to await, like his highness in Cyprus, the day when the tide of history should be turned, his dynasty will obey the law of its being, and perish, as it rose, amid the flames of Constantinople.

M. Louis Blanc, remarks the *Spectator*, was an able, though limited man, who wrote history after a brilliant, pictorial fashion, and who had sympathies wide enough to comprehend a people so little like himself as the English; but it is not as a *littérateur* that his personality possesses interest:—

perhaps, the best representative of a class of men; numerous on the Continent, though nearly unknown here, who give political vitality to the set of half-formed ideas described and condemned in England as "Socialism." To most Englishmen, the word "Socialism" only suggests a man intending insurrection;—a man, mostly pale, thin men with beads, who regard the arrangements of society with a mixture of scorn and hate; who hold dictators to be enemies of mankind, and, merely on account of their dignities, worthy of death; and who are in the habit of holding out a chance of redistributing property by force. No man ever seemed so gentle as Louis Blanc, unless it were Banni, the Russian Revolutionist who died at Mentana, and who would have swept Russia with fire rather than endure what existed or would be proposed in the Russian Constitution. Among men of this type he was one of the very best. We believe that such men—and there are many of them—are exercising a great influence on the Continent and in America, and that it is not wholly evil. They do, no doubt, supply resources for the saying, "Russia is the land of the future." They fancy that because fire is the strongest of the elements, you can use fire to build with; but they do also much better work. They do wake up society to the sense that it owes a duty to man, and not merely to respectable men, in paying rates and taxes; they do make the people perceive that there are objects which must be secured other than external order, if European Society is to continue; and they do inspire the toiling masses with the belief that in combination of some kind must be the solution of the problem of the future. The citizens of the United States, if the Social System have any truth at all in it, must be true somehow.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Friday :—

telegraphed on Friday, "I am not without a personal reluctance, and after pressing Riazi to withdraw his resignation, has finally been induced to accept it. But Riazi is not yet effaced. He is still busily intriguing, with the help of Borelli Biaz, who is now an official, if not an official, exponent of French policy in India, in order to bring about an end by manufacturing a Ministerial crisis. He is, accordingly, putting strong pressure on his late colleagues in the Cabinet for the purpose of making them resign in a body. It is obviously with a view to add these tactics to reports are being seditiously circulated that the Government will not resign, that the Cabinet in protesting against the travesty of justice, forced by England on the Tribunal appointed to try Arabi. The Khedive, however, is averse to encouraging such rash designs, and negotiations have been opened with Nubar Pacha in order to induce him to resign the Ministry of which Ghorri Pacha will be the head."

The determination of the fate of the leadership of the police has had one good result. It leaves everybody free to begin that vital work of reconstruction whose delay has been so disastrous to the country. As yet only one matter has been dealt with evententially—namely, the organisation of the Police and Constabulary. The latter force will soon be thoroughly organised, and it ought to prove a very efficient and manageable body. Out of a total of four thousand men, only 1,000 are to be recruited, and the number definitely fixed, three thousand are already enlisted and equipped, so as to be fit for service. With regard to the Urban Police, its organisation has been entrusted to a Commission, whose deliberations are making fair progress. It is eliminating the eccentricities that disgraced Count de Salas's scheme, and is imparting to the force a

homogeneous national character. As to the organisation of the Army, that matter is irrelevant, for Egypt is not a democracy. A Regency can be declared so long as British troops occupy Egypt, and of their early withdrawal there is as yet no sign. Nor should this be matter for regret. Egypt is too poor to pay the cost of two armies, and the foreign army of occupation is not a permanent force. Even if the English force were gradually reduced from twelve to six thousand men, it will cost to maintain it, at the very lowest estimate, over half a million sterling a year. When to this is added the cost of the Egyptian Police and the Egyptian Army, the total has to be fifty thousand pounds a year, the exact figure is not known, but the general case is clear. The Egyptian Exchequer would find itself burdened under these two items with a charge far in excess of the War Budget sanctioned by the Joint Control. It will be remembered that the Egyptian Army is a relic of an organisation was to have a strong force of native Constabulary and Police with a small English contingent. The latter was needed in order to tip the spear with steel. That scheme favoured by Baker Pacha, was not approved at the time. It is, however, a scheme which is being adapted. The only difference would be that the English Contingent, instead of being nominally in the service of the Khedive, will be maintained without disguise as an Army of Occupation. In these circumstances the Egyptian Government will be pressed in favour of other more pressing questions with which Lord Dufferin is very anxious to deal. Amongst Lord Dufferin are the reform of native tribunals, the more equitable distribution of the Land Tax, the reduction of taxation and the establishment of a Ministry of Finance, the remodelling of the financial Control, and the elaboration of machinery meant to give the natives a consultative voice in the management of their public affairs.

An almost general improvement in the weather was reported on Friday morning. The fall in temperature was not so great, with the exception of intermittent falls in a few districts, has ceased. In the north of London on Thursday night there was a hard frost. In the City and in the southern districts the traces of the snow had almost disappeared. In the country the snow had a greater depth in some places in the country, and traffic is seriously impeded. Efforts are being made to open up traffic on the interrupted railways, and communications are being restored. The newspapers from Leeds, however, did not come in on Friday morning. In Scotland the cold is intense, and fairs are entertained for the safety of the shepherds and their flocks on the hills. Dundee and other towns north of the Tay were on Friday completely isolated from the south. No London trains were running on Friday morning. Communication by railway was entirely cut off. Cattle of about £100,000 value are now on their way to English markets, and dealers are not a little anxious as to the safety of their consignments. The mail train from London, which was due to start on Friday night, did not reach there until eight o'clock on Friday morning, having been detained 15 hours by snowdrifts. The passengers suffered severely. The gales around the coasts have abated. The English mail to Dublin did not start on Friday morning. The communication on Thursday evening, the train having been delayed by the severe snowstorm. The mail was again late on Friday morning. Mr. Mackintosh, chief engineer of the Festinog line, and Mr. Davies, a farmer of Festinog, the two persons who were in the train, were conveyed over the snow to a relief train at four o'clock on Friday morning and brought to Bala. The buried train, consisting of an engine and four coaches, left Festinog for Bala at six o'clock on Wednesday night with two drivers. They had proceeded about eight miles when the engine stuck in the snow, and the fire was put out. Snow drifted upon them in immense heaps, and the train became completely buried. It was not until the snow was cleared away that the men and food provided. The passengers were buried with the train about thirty hours. It is stated that the passengers are suffering much from the exposure. The work of removing the snow was continued throughout Thursday night, and the train was not rescued until early on Friday morning the snow-ploughs were within two miles of the train.

stern, information states:—Despite the strenuous efforts of the officials of the various railway companies only small progress was made on Friday in restoring the interrupted communication between England and Scotland by the three main lines on the west coast. The Glasgow, Edinburgh and London line was blocked between Carstairs and Beattock was partially cleared during Thursday night, and several of the belated trains which were due in Carlisle on Thursday passed through that city yesterday morning on their way south. They included the Glasgow and London express, which reached Carlisle about six o'clock the following morning, bringing with it the delayed Scotch mails. The traffic is now being worked on a single line between Carlisle and Beattock, and all the trains are very late. On the Waverley route of the Scotch Fish Railways, the Glasgow and Aberdeen line, the passage of through trains is concerned, though by running trains on each side of the snow drifts communication has been restored in a somewhat intermittent fashion. The interruption of traffic which took place on the Glasgow and Aberdeen line, and which on Thursday night has been ascertained to have been due to an accident which occurred at Sanguhar, and not to a snow drift, as had been at first supposed when the trains failed to arrive in Carlisle. The express from Glasgow, due at Carlisle at 7.50 on Wednesday night, was delayed for an hour and ran into a cattle and goods train which was fouling the line. A drover who was riding in the guard's van of the goods train was killed and a large number of live stock destroyed. Two of the passengers in the express were injured, one seriously. The Glasgow and Aberdeen line was closed in the afternoon, and traffic to the certain extent was resumed. On the Midland the snowdrifts still block the way between Hames Junction and Settle. The accumulation is some miles in length, and it is expected that the task of the gangs of workmen who are employed to clear the line will occupy the next few days unless the weather should come to their aid. The trouble through traffic between Scotland and the Midland system is now being worked over the London and North-Western Railway between Carlisle and Tebyah. There are great delays on the Eborac Valley line between Kirby Stephen and Barnard Castle.

Snow again descended in dense storms over North Wales on Friday night, but a general thaw set in, and on Saturday morning the inmates of many dwelling-houses in the valleys and lowlands, who have been snowed-up by the immense drifts, were liberated from their imprisonment. Many families are suffering severely from privation and cold. Such protracted snowstorms have not been experienced for a long period of years. The buried train in the deep valley at Arenig, near Festiniog, has at length been reached. Five miles of snow, from six to eighteen feet high, having been cut through by the gang of workmen employed. The rescued passengers are doing favourably, though grave apprehension has been felt among the friends of Mr. Jones, of Pen-y-fan, who is an elderly gentleman, and who has been in delicate health for some time.

Several deaths from cold and exposure to the weather are reported. A blacksmith named Owen, aged about fifty, of Meelford, Llanstlan, Denbighshire, was found, on being dug out, dead, in a deep snow-drift at Cefn Braich, a few miles from his home. He was alive, but unconscious, and died a few minutes after being discovered. An unknown man, apparently between seventy and eighty years of age, was found dead in the snow on Friday in a field about half a mile south of Thirsk. He was found two or three hundred yards from a dwelling-house, and must have died in the midst of the severe storm. A woman named Mary Kay, 63 years of age, was found dead in the snow within fifty yards of the house where she resided, which is on a bleak moor, above Nordon, near Rochdale. A man named Michael Buttiss has also been found dead in the snow at Lockeden, near Whiby.

COLONIAL BANKS AND INCOME TAX.—It appears from the recently issued report of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue that the banks are to be required to pay interest on the interest, on money deposited in colonial banks. The *Colonies and India* since learns that the banks are themselves ordered to collect the income tax, and deduct it from the dividends of the depositors. If this be so, it would seem that the step is being taken which will have the effect of driving away all the branches of the colonial banks, and so seriously hampering both home and colonial trade; for a depositor, compelled to submit to deduction of income tax from a dividend paid by a London branch, while he would receive it intact if direct from the parent establishment in the colony, will adopt the simple expedient of depositing his money at, and receiving his interest from, the bank in the colony, or in New Zealand. Thus the *raison d'être* of the London branches will be gone. The question is one of importance to trade in general, and it has also a political bearing, which we will not enter into now. The injustice of requiring the banks to collect the income tax collectors to their own immediate injury, is self-evident. It is to be hoped this most obnoxious order will be withdrawn.

The following are fuller details of the great

[illegible]

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Captain Shaw and Colonel Fraser, the head commissioner of the police, visited the scene of the fire on Saturday morning. A large number of firemen were still engaged pouring water on the burning buildings, the heat being so intense that Messrs. Rylands' premises had to be abandoned. The flames were still rising in great masses of smoke were continually arising from the burning masses of calico, shirtings, and other goods; and although there was little danger of an outburst of fire, it was deemed necessary to keep a stream of water pouring upon the ruins. The premises of Messrs. Foster and Co. were also being watered, although being nothing but a small portion of the bare walls left standing in Wood-street and Philip-lane, and they are in a very dangerous state. Two walls, held together by beams, are left standing of one of the houses in the occupation of Messrs. Rylands. The large crowd of people gathered round the police from all sides, and the block of buildings which had been burned, owing to the probability of some of the ruins falling—a great deal having come down. Besides the destruction of the buildings bounded by Love-lane, Philip-lane, Wood-street, and London-wall, other premises were also destroyed. The east end of the Philip-lane and west of Wood-street, the former being slightly burned and the latter damaged by the fall of the walls of Messrs. Rylands and Foster's warehouses. The total loss was on Saturday morning estimated at £1,500,000. It is thought that Mrs. Rylands had been to the scene of the fire. Nearly the whole of Wood-street, from Addle-lane to Cripple-gate-buildings, is covered with a mass of broken masonry lying in blocks of various sizes, iron pillars snapped in pieces, large wooden and iron beams, bricks, and other remains of the burned buildings.

It is difficult to say as yet what each insurance office will lose, on account of the re-insurances that exist, but the aggregate assured seems roughly to be about £850,000 on the various stocks in trade held by Foster, Porter, and Co., Rylands, and others, and £150,000 on buildings, or £1,000,000 in all. The principal losses have been roughly estimated as follows:—£1,000,000; Commercial and Mercantile will lose £80,000; Commercial Union, £50,000; Royal Exchange, £42,000; Phoenix, £45,000; Guardian, £35,000; Royal, £30,000; Liverpool, £30,000; London, £20,000; Northern, £20,000; Sun, £20,000. The above are the names of the non-marine companies; the Mutual will, it is said, lose £30,000; the Equitable, £10,000; and the Standard, £4,000.

Some further particulars are published concerning the destruction of the Alhambra. Mr. William Holland, the manager of the Alhambra, states that the fire was first discovered in the balcony stalls by the firemen employed on the establishment. These men immediately set three hydrants to work, and also closed all the iron doors, in the hope of checking the conflagration. Their efforts were, however, of little avail, for the flames spread with a rapidity with which they were

unable to cope. Mr. Holland was the last to leave the premises, at about half-past eleven o'clock, when all lights and fires were put out. The only portion of the building saved is the painting-room and Mr. Holland's office. The theatre, which is a wooden building, which is estimated at £10,000, is destroyed. The number of firemen present under Captain Shaw was nearly 170 men. At one time there were twenty-eight steam-engines and stand-pipes in operation, as well as the private hydrants of the City of London Fire Company. Late on Thursday night twenty firemen were still in attendance, and three stand-pipes were employed in throwing water on the heated ruins. During Thursday most of the firemen were witnessed among the occupants of the houses in the neighbourhood of the back of the theatre. These houses have been pronounced unsafe; and amid the inclement weather women and children were removing their furniture to temporary quarters. About 100 persons have been thrown out of work by the destruction of the theatre. A committee is being formed to raise a fund for their relief; and Mr. Compton, the Secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, has been requested to receive the contributions. Mr. H. B. Paxton has already collected over £200 on the Stock Exchange. The theatre and its contents were insured for £30,000 in the North British, the Royal, and some other offices. The directors yesterday resolved to proceed at once to the reconstruction of the theatre. Fireman Ashford, who was seriously injured by the fall of a wall, died on Thursday morning in Charing-cross Hospital. No hopes are entertained of the recovery of Fireman Ashford, who fractured his skull by falling from a ladder. Fireman Ashford was married, and his wife and three children were not injured. The architect, and Engineer Chalkerton sustained a severe bruise of the back.

Lord Salisbury was present at the annual

Lord Salisbury was present at the annual meeting of the Anglo-Irish Convention, which the Association, held at Hitcham. Among the others present were Lord Lytton, Lord Grimston, and Lord Dimsdale. In replying to the toast of the "Lords and Commons" Lord Salisbury referred to the course of recent legislation, and said that he had not been the whole time since this Parliament assembled, and was likely to occupy it till it dissolved. From the persistence of the evils in Ireland Lord Salisbury said a very serious lesson has to be drawn. All the evils which are brought by the various degenerate and brutalised, by those who all affect to represent the Irish people have but one object in view—the namely, to make England so weary of the Irish connection that Irish independence should be conceded. That is the point at which they are aiming, but what they really want is the encouragement of late years to believe that an object so hostile to the interests of the empire and so contrary to the obligations of all English statesmen is attainable? It is that which he has always been opposed to. He seemed at one time more unchangeable, the applications of agitation have effected a marvellous change in the convictions of English statesmen. For centuries the English Legislature has stood steadily by the rights of private property, and has never been for a moment so faltering or hesitation upon that subject. On the question of the connection between England and Ireland, England has altered her mind two or three times; but on the question of the rights of private property she has never altered her mind this time. If, under the pressure of popular agitation, through fears of what the murderers or the sedition-mongers or the obstructors could do, she has yielded up her concessions on a matter on which she was so heretofore unshaken, it is the more to be argued—that if we are only persistent enough and if we are only unscrupulous enough, we shall force a similar concession on that matter on which we know from history she has always been so unflinching a victor. If this feeling was once admitted, it is greatly stimulated by the language constantly proceeding from the Prime Minister, indicating that the account was not closed, that there was still something to be done, that on points in definitely indicated the Government was still to be victorious. It is this language which has taken even the matter of the values of the land allowed these pressure to be appointed, they waited till the pressure of agitation came, and then, without pretending that their own opinions were altered, the values were discovered to be too high. It is this language, these things are, one after the other, the steps of a proclamation to the Irish agitators that the Government of England is in a yielding mood and that the amount of concession depends upon the amount of pressure. Lord Salisbury has been so far from being consistent in dealing with the land question in England, and deprecated the introduction of any measure which, by setting up antagonism between the different classes concerned, were more likely to produce evil than good. Lord Lytton proposed the measure, and now he is against it. In the course of his speech he referred to various important measures passed during the past session of Parliament, and urged that a Government that was able to pass all those really useful measures was now gagged it was not useful, but for revolutionary, legislation.

Mr. Smith has issued the following address:

Mr. Smith has issued the following address to the electors of Liverpool:—Gentlemen,—I feel that I have no words to express my heartfelt thanks for the great honour you have done me in returning me this day a your representative to Parliament. No prouder position could be desired by any citizen. It is thus that I am enabled to have my feeling at the moment is one of deep responsibility in view of the important duties to which you have called me. I wish to represent all classes of this vast constituency, and I feel that I shall be able to do those questions which affect the welfare of our people. I owe much to the support given me by the working classes of Liverpool, and I also wish to thank most cordially all the earnest labourers in our great cause,—I am, etc. SAMUEL SMITH, Esq.

The *Liverpool Post* (L.) says that Friday's poll would undoubtedly have been very much larger had the election taken place on the present register, which contains the names of 20,000 more voters than the last. As it was published there have been removals by voters to the number of some 20,000. There was also a great and unprecendented abatement of the fish voters. The same journal remarks that there was no Liverpool enough. Liberals to beat the most formidable candidate that the Tories can bring forward. The *Liverpool Mercury* (L.) says:—We have no desire to be dictatorial, but we regard as being not only the greatest which has ever been achieved in this city but as one which will commend itself to Mr. Gladstone as perhaps the greatest sentimental and dramatic triumph of half a century of public life. But the bounds of the triumph are to be pointed out that the victory is the result of a battle between rival parties. The return of Mr. Smith to Parliament reveals the fact—which some of us have not altogether unparadoxically to say, that the consequence of the vast population has a conscience, has a sense of right and justice which will respond to the touch of anybody who is capable of appealing to it. I think that every weak Liberal worker, there fore, take courage, and do not allow himself to disconcert under the notion that in the end he will be circumvented by fraudulent devices by wholesale persuasion, by any and every trick that the spirit of electoral corruption can devise. The *Liverpool Advertiser* (L.) ascribes the defeat to the jealousy which has existed between the friends of Mr. Whitley and Mr. Forwood, and the doubt as to which should retire at the general election.

Galignani's Messenger.

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DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM GALIGNANI.

It is with the deepest sorrow that we announce to our friends and readers the death of Mr. William Galignani, which took place yesterday evening at his residence, 82, Faubourg St. Honoré. The deceased gentleman, who was in the 85th year of his age, had long been an invalid, but notwithstanding his infirmities he remained in the full enjoyment of his intellectual faculties to the last, and with them retained the kindly and genial qualities of heart which had so thoroughly endeared him to all who had in any way been brought into contact with him. Mr. William Galignani was the younger of the two brothers through whose intelligent and indefatigable exertions the *Messenger* steadily extended its influence for upwards of half a century. Confining ourselves, for the moment, to this brief expression of our sense of bereavement at his departure we propose, in our next issue, to review his active and highly honourable career, a career in which he distinguished himself by many signal deeds of charity, as well as by those "little, unremembered acts of kindness and of love," which formed one of the most pleasing features of his character. Our columns will, at the same time, contain an announcement, for the benefit of his numerous friends, of the date and hour of his funeral.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10—11, 1882.

PROPOSED CABINET CHANGES.

Before many days have passed an important addition will be made in the person of Lord Derby to Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet. There is no truth in the report, which has been published in some quarters with an appearance of authority, that the Prime Minister contemplates immediate or speedy retirement from office, and that the Government will in consequence be totally reconstructed. These speculations are entirely wide of the mark. Mr. Gladstone has no such intention, and no such extensive changes will at once be made in the Cabinet are such a shifting of offices as Lord Derby's entrance into it involves. Probably another addition will be made to it later in the year, or at any rate before the meeting of Parliament. But at present the personal changes will be confined to Lord Derby's acceptance of office. Few, if any, Liberal statesmen would bring with them a greater accession of real strength. Lord Derby's political influence is not only considerable in itself, but it is exerted upon influential people, upon people who think for themselves. Those who think for themselves are apt to acquire (and it is often their only reward) the right of thinking for others. Lord Derby has always eschewed the rhetoric which is not founded on reason. He regards a political question so as, if not to secure the assent, at least to command the respect of rational and independent minds. As an administrator, he is able and cautious. As a statesman, he is prudent and farsighted. It will be difficult to persuade the most suspicious that a Government of which Lord Derby is a prominent member is prone to the hasty execution of crude designs, while his character and career are almost conclusive evidence that he will have nothing to do with a foreign policy of aggression or needless intervention. Much has, of course, been said about Lord Derby's actual movement from the Conservatism of the Liberal party, and about his supposed conversion from Conservatism to Liberal principles. It is scarcely necessary to remark that there is nothing discreditable in a man's changing his mind. But, in point of fact, Lord Derby was never a Conservative in the commoner and narrower sense of the word. He has always been a hard-headed, philosophical reasoner on political topics, whose association and perhaps a certain sceptical mistrust of change combined to keep within the limits of the party to which he belonged. Before he became the Earl of Derby, Lord Stanley was described as the man who spoke with one party and voted with the other. No reproach by the phrase. It merely expressed in a conveniently terse and not particularly accurate way Lord Stanley's habit of balancing adverse arguments, of doing justice to the case of his opponents, of defending Conservative or quasi-Conservative measures on principles which were not shared by his political friends. For one other change in the distribution of Cabinet offices our readers will have been prepared. Mr. Gladstone stated not long since in the House of Commons that it was no longer consistent with the public interests for him to retain the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer. Effect will shortly be given to this intimation, and Mr. Gladstone, at the age of seventy-three, will be content to serve his country only as First Lord of the Treasury and Leader of the House of Commons. This is a position which may give ample scope even to his abundant energy and untiring patriotism. It is half a century, as this week emphatically reminds us, since he entered public life. The first reformed Parliament was elected in December, 1832, and on the 13th, a day of which next Wednesday is the fiftieth anniversary, Mr. Gladstone was returned to Parliament as one of the members for Newark. English history might be searched in vain for a parallel to his political achievements during these eventful years. It is interesting and instructive on the present occasion to recall the fact that the father of the present Lord Derby was among the most eminent, and certainly not the least enthusiastic, authors of a reform which was little less than a peaceful and salutary revolution. It is said, indeed,

that when the Lords threw out the Reform Bill Mr. Stanley, as he then was, declared that, if necessary, coronets must be clapped upon a company of his Majesty's Foot Guards. Be that as it may, the early part of the late Lord Derby's brilliant and chequered career was spent as a vehement and impetuous Whig, and it was not until what appeared to him sacrilegious hands were laid upon that truly remarkable sanctuary the Irish Church, that he began to reconsider his position. The Stanleys were a Whig family, and the present head of the house has but returned, so far as he has ever left them, to the principles of progress which his father abandoned. The Liberal party may look back without dissatisfaction to the history of England for the last fifty years. It has no cause to be ashamed of its share in those changes which the general assent of all parties has stamped as beneficial. But it cannot afford to stand still. The increasing wants of a progressive community are not to be met by platitudes about the danger of over-legislation, or by merely departmental reforms. The country expects a Government of men who will settle without further delay the questions which from various causes have been allowed to fall into arrears. In schemes for the better management of London and the more satisfactory administration of county finance, Lord Derby's aid will be most valuable. Sir William Harcourt and Mr. Dodson were prepared last session to introduce measures on these two subjects. But both questions, more especially that which concerns the metropolis, are full of difficulties which may at any time be discovered and removed. —*Daily News*.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND GERMANY.

In an article suggested by another in the *North German Gazette*, the substance of which has appeared among our telegrams, the *Standard* says:—"A rupture between England and France," we are told, "would certainly have a powerful reactionary effect, and an accord is, therefore, desirable in the interests of peace." Prince Bismarck has now for some years proved the sincerity of his attachment to peace, which he will preserve at all cost save that of involving Germany in loss of credit in trying to prevent its infraction. A rupture between England and France would unsettle the world that it is impossible for any one to estimate the limit of the mischief that would ensue. For this reason—in other words, because a downright quarrel between France and England might end by being embarrassing, and possibly perilous, to Germany—Prince Bismarck would fain see such a contingency averted. But there would be greater danger to Germany still, as the *North German Gazette* points out, were the object recently expounded by M. Reinach to be attained, and an alliance to be formed between the two countries, "a compact, in fact, with active obligations in view." Nor does our German instructor hesitate to put his finger upon the precise contingency that would constitute the new peril. Were England and France actively allied, Russia would at once desist from courting the good graces of Germany and Austria, and would join the Western Powers that humbled her more than a quarter of a century ago. This, as described as "a result at one time indicated by the tendency of British policy." These words evidently refer to Mr. Gladstone's denunciations of Austria-Hungary. But though Mr. Gladstone is not likely to confess the fact, it is certain that he has learnt a good many things regarding Foreign Policy during his present tenure of office. He has become conscious of his powerlessness to break the strong link that binds the two German Powers, and of his inability to thwart their policy, without setting the world in a blaze.

He has also become aware that both France and Russia have old scores to pay off against Germany, and that they would try their best at the operation, if they could drag England into the adventure. France would not be satisfied with the co-operation of Russia, and Russia would not be content with merely the co-operation of France. But each would be prepared for concerted action with the other if England only were with them. This is why, though Germany wishes to see a fairly good understanding exist between England and France, it would dread an active alliance between the two. Moreover, were England, France, and Russia arrayed on one side, and Germany and Austria on the other, Italy would be compelled to join the first combination, seeing that England and France, acting together, could inflict upon her a deadly blow. This may seem a remote contingency, and so it always was; but it has been made more real to us through recent events in Egypt, and to that extent Prince Bismarck's sagacity has enjoyed another triumph. His object evidently is to maintain the defensive alliance struck between Germany and Austria, and to prevent any other two or more Powers forming an alliance at all. A statesman of smaller capacity or weaker nerves would have effected this end by accepting the advances of Russia and Italy, each of which has sought to be admitted to the Austro-German Compact. But Prince Bismarck, with perfect coolness, practically rejects their approaches, while taking care that they shall find few friends nowhere else. He is well aware that Russia would prefer to turn against Germany, if it had the chance, and that Italy would shape her conduct, at a crisis, by what seemed to her the necessities of the moment. Those are not the qualifications which the Prince requires in an ally. He is much too thorough and straightforward for such doubtful friendships; and he is satisfied to render powerless those of whom he knows he cannot make sincere allies. His attitude towards England is different again. However inconsistent Mr. Gladstone may have been in his Foreign Policy, he is not double-dealing or tortuous. He has had to adopt the policy of Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury in regard to other Powers, and this fact is no doubt a reflection upon his previous judgment and his previous conduct. But, now that he has virtually avowed his error, the Government of which he is the head is not waiting, like Russia, for an opportunity to injure Germany. Therefore, Prince Bismarck regards England with tolerable respect and satisfaction; and the Power he respects he will always treat well. Accordingly, he passively

countenances our action in Egypt; and it is a significant circumstance that Italian newspapers are beginning to discover that it is not desirable for the differences between England and France to become embittered, and that if there is to be the supremacy of one Power in Egypt, Power had better be England. We can hardly doubt that this little touch of Alpine wisdom came originally from the other side of the mountains. All that remains is for our nearest neighbours to grasp the situation in a frank and fearless temper, and to recognise that the current of events, to which they have so largely contributed, has rendered it inevitable that England should take upon itself exclusively the delivery of Egypt from its bondage to confusion and impotency, and should protect it against a repetition of costly and bootless insurrections.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

WINDSOR CASTLE, SUNDAY.

The Queen drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by Lady Abercromby and the Hon. Evelyn Paget. The Duke and Duchess of Albany, attended by Lady Knightley, left Windsor at 4.40 p.m. for Claremont. Princess Beatrice, attended by the Hon. Lady Biddulph, Miss Bauer, and Captain F. L. Edwards, C.B., went to London yesterday forenoon, and visited the Belgrave Hospital for Children, of which her Royal Highness is patroness. The Princess was received by Captain W. J. Stopford and the Rev. G. H. Wilkinson, the honorary secretaries; the managing committee, Miss Munro, the lady superintendent, and the medical staff. After being shown over the hospital, her Royal Highness opened and named a new ward, which has been recently constructed, the "Princess Beatrice" ward. In the afternoon the Princess was present at the Royal Albert Hall to hear "The Redemption" by Gounod, and returned to Windsor in the evening. The Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein dined with the Queen and the Royal Family. Lieutenant Colonel the Viscount de Vesi, Coldstream Guards, and the Viscountess de Vesi, and the Rev. Canon Boyd Carpenter had the honour of being included in her Majesty's dinner party. The Queen and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service this morning in the private chapel. The Rev. W. Boyd Carpenter, canon of St. George's, Windsor, and Honorary Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, preached the sermon.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice are, according to the most recent arrangements, expected to leave Windsor about Monday or Tuesday next week for Osborne, where the Court will reside during the Christmas season. The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, arrived at Marlborough House on Friday evening from the country.

The Prince of Wales was present at a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Trustees of the British Museum on Saturday. His Royal Highness subsequently presided at a general meeting of the trustees. The Prince and Princess of Wales, attended by Lady Emily Kingscote, Colonel Oliver Montagu, and the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt-Drummond, visited the performance of *Iolanthe* at the Savoy Theatre on Saturday evening.

The Marquis of Abercromby arrived in Dover-street on Saturday from visiting Lord Henry and Lady Ulrica Thynne at Malden Bradley, Bath. The Earl and Countess of Morley have left town for Exeter, Plymouth, Devon. The Earl and Countess of Mexborough and Lady Mary Savile have left Weymouth for Portland Castle on a visit to Lord and Lady Peelton.

The Countesses of Ashburnham and Lady Mary Ashburnham are staying at Ashburnham House, Dover-street. THE ILLNESS OF MR. FAWCETT, M.P. Mr. Fawcett's condition on Saturday night was such as to cause grave anxiety to his friends, as well as his medical advisers. He has been ill since the morning of the 10th, and during the whole of the day he has been in a state of unconsciousness, and has not been able to take any food. A medical consultation was at once held, and a medical opinion was given that the patient was suffering from a severe attack of the heart, and that the prognosis was not favourable. The condition of the throat has been rather less satisfactory, and there have been a few small hemorrhages. In other respects the improvement of yesterday is maintained. (Signed) Andrew Clark, M.D., E. Wright, J. Ford Anderson, M.D., E. Garrett Anderson, M.D.

At half-past twelve o'clock on Sunday morning the subject of official information was communicated:—"A fresh and considerable hemorrhage from the air-passages occurred in the course of the night, and in consequence the Crown Mr. Fawcett throughout the night. The following bulletin was issued at seven o'clock on Sunday evening:—"There has been no recurrence of the hemorrhage since last night; and, although Mr. Fawcett is feebler than before it occurred, his condition is such that he will be able to take food in the course of the morning." On inquiry at a late hour on Sunday night it was stated that there had been no further consultation, and that the condition of Mr. Fawcett was unchanged.

STATE OF IRELAND.

The trial of Patrick Higgins for the murder of Joseph Huddy (alias Lord Adair) and his gang in the neighbourhood of Lough Mask, on the 3rd of Jan. last, was continued in Dublin on Saturday, before Mr. Justice O'Brien. The court was crowded. The Solicitor-General for Ireland, Mr. Murphy, Q.C., and Mr. O'Brien, Q.C., represented the Crown; Mr. Teeling and Mr. Adams defended the prisoner. Mr. Justice O'Brien, in summing up the evidence, pointed out that the crime seemed to have been committed by persons who came fully prepared for the purpose. He characterised the evidence given by Kate Higgins, for the defence, as on the face of it untrue. In conclusion, he asked the jury to consider their duty in this case to the law, to their consciences and to society. He had only one instruction to give them—let them do their duty boldly, manfully and fearlessly. For many minutes past one o'clock the jury

retired to consider their verdict. At seven minutes past two they returned into court. The Clerk of the Crown: Have you agreed to a verdict? Foreman: There is no possibility of the jury agreeing. His Lordship: Is there any point upon which I can be of any use to you? Foreman: I have asked that question, my lord, and the reply is, "There is not." His Lordship: The other jurors concur in that answer. Foreman: Yes, my lord. His Lordship: You represent their opinions in that respect? Foreman: I do, my lord. His Lordship: What do counsel for the Crown say? Mr. Murphy: I leave it entirely in the hands of the jury. I apprehend that there is no possibility of an agreement, and that no could be attained by keeping them any longer. I leave it entirely in your lordship's hands. His Lordship: Do you assure me, sir, as the foreman of this jury, having conferred with the other jurors, and having heard their opinions expressed, that there is no reasonable expectation that the result of further deliberation would be the procuring of a united opinion? The Foreman: I have asked that question several times of the jury, and they have answered me in the negative. In their opinion there is no use arguing the point, my lord. Mr. Murphy: The statement, my lord, of the juror—A Juror (Mr. Russell): The foreman says "They say." Foreman: Well, I did not wish to point out any mistake. The Juror: I do not think it was a fair observation. His Lordship: Well, gentlemen, I discharge you. Mr. Murphy: Now, my lord, I wish at once to announce to my learned friends who represent the prisoner that the accused will be put upon his trial again on Monday morning. A Juror (Mr. O'Neill): I am labouring under a severe cold, my lord, and I should like to be excused for a few days. Mr. Murphy: So you will, Mr. O'Neill, in all probability you will be excused for some days. If we possibly can we will not have any gentlemen upon juries in the other trials who have been obliged to serve this trial. Mr. Russell: My lord, I presume jurors who have tried this case will not be required to answer to their names on Monday. Mr. Murphy: Certainly not; your presence will not be required. His Lordship: Not until this present trial is over. The prisoner was then removed.

It was understood that there was only one dissenting juror. The court adjourned. On Saturday the Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, in the presence of the fellows and students, presented a silver salver to the Lord-Lieutenant, in token of their admiration of his conduct as a good citizen and a brave soldier in assisting the police when recently attacked by Fenians in Abbey-street. The sergeant expressed his gratitude, and assured them that the spirit stand would not be used without the sanction of the Provost and the fellows and students of Trinity College. The Choral Society sang "God save the Queen," and Sergeant Danvers, with a college gown and cap on, was subsequently chaired round the quadrangle.

The Lord-Lieutenant has been pleased to order that the salver presented to him be paid to the following witnesses for their courageous and praiseworthy conduct in the pursuit and prosecution of the murderers of the late Mr. Joyce at Maamtrasna—viz., to Anthony Joyce, £500; to his brother, John Joyce, £500; to Patrick, son of John Joyce, £250.

THE GREAT FIRE IN THE CITY.

ANOTHER WAREHOUSE BURNED.

Nothing further has transpired as to the origin of the great fire in Wood-street. So far as can be ascertained, the original estimate of the aggregate losses—between £2,000,000 and £3,000,000—was below rather than above the mark. Happily there is no reason to suppose that any loss of life or serious personal injury resulted from the conflagration. Four or five firemen in the course of their courageous efforts sustained slight bruises and contusions, necessitating surgical aid, but giving no ground for anxiety. Up to Saturday night about ten hydrants were still being used for the purpose of pouring water on the smouldering ruins, and some forty members of the brigade remain on duty at the spot. On Saturday thousands of persons flocked to Wood-street, to view the scene of the fire, getting as near to the scene as they could without being in the way. The police formed a cordon around the quadrangle, and no person was permitted to enter the site of the fire. On Sunday, notwithstanding the fog, there was a similar manifestation of curiosity on the part of the public. Salvage men are on duty, but have not yet been able to commence operations. About seven o'clock on Saturday evening another fire broke out in Wood-street, in a warehouse adjoining that in which the original catastrophe commenced. The flames were first observed by the engineer McGowan, who was in charge of the ruins in Wood-street, and he sent word to the fire engine, which was made to extinguish the fire. Finding, however, it increased, he went for assistance, and after an interval several steamers arrived. The flames had by this time got too great a hold, and about half-past ten the fire burst itself out, the premises being gutted. It is supposed to have been caused by embers from the fire in the warehouse of Friday morning.

THE REV. A. H. MACKONCHIE AND ARCHBISHOP TAIT.

On Saturday evening the Rev. A. H. Mackonochie addressed his congregation in St. Alban's, Holborn, and explained his reasons for resigning the perpetual curacy of that church. The resolution to which he had come, he said, had not depended upon any correspondence beginning on Nov. 10 and ending on the 5th inst. On the former date the late Primate wrote him saying that his thoughts had dwelt much upon the troubles and difficulties which had made themselves apparent in connection with ritual prosecutions, and continuing, "I am exceedingly anxious that the result of the Royal Commission on Ecclesiastical Courts should be such as to remove any meeting any reasonable objections to existing procedure, to set men's minds free for the pressing duties which devolve upon the Church in the face of prevailing sin and unbelief. Anything which at this moment increases bitterness of feeling may do permanent mischief to the cause we all have at heart; anything which tends to preserve peace now will make a satisfactory solution of our difficulties far easier. I venture, therefore, privately to write to you—though I cannot yet do so with my own hand—to ask whether you can in any way contribute to minimise the present feeling of bitterness which undoubtedly exists in some quarters. I need not assure you that I do not wish in any way to dictate to you a course of action; but if you feel it possible, consistently with your conscience, to do anything to help me to act in the manner best calculated to promote the real peace and usefulness of the Church to which you belong. I make this appeal to you under a strong sense of responsibility." The Rev. A. H. Mackonochie then read a letter which he had received from the Primate, under date Nov. 23, to the following effect:—"The conclusion to which he had arrived was to ac-

quiesce in the Archbishop's wish. He was content to give up his peace if the true peace and liberty of the Church could be obtained by his compliance. It must not be thought, however, that he had changed his conviction as to the State courts. He accepted the line of action indicated simply in deference to the Primate, as the supreme representative of the Lord Christ in all things spiritual, and not as withdrawing anything which he had said or done in regard to those courts. He hoped, in conclusion, that he might depend upon his grace's good offices with the Bishop of London, so that he might be licensed or intimated to whatever work in the diocese that should offer. In reply, the Archbishop wrote, enclosing a letter he had sent to the Bishop of London, in which he said that it seemed to him Mr. Mackonochie had "shown his consideration for the highest interests of the Church by sacrificing his individual feelings in deference to his appeal." On December 1st (Mr. Mackonochie) formally resigned the benefice, and acquainted the Archbishop with the fact also that he would "probably be nominated to the benefice of St. Peter's, London Docks, from which Mr. Suckling would be transferred to St. Albans." By the foregoing correspondence it would have been seen that the simple work of the Archbishop was to ask him to resign, and it seemed to him impossible to refuse the request in these troubled times. The circumstances were such that it was natural for the Father of the Church in this land to come forward and say, "Can you assist me, so as we can get matters straight without loss of principle?" and that was what the Archbishop actually did say in the kindest possible way, so as to leave no stress upon the fact that he was asking him to resign. The Rev. Robert Suckling, of St. Peter's, London Docks, was presented to the living then vacant, and on the next day was instituted by the Bishop. Then on Saturday, by reason of papers having gone astray in the post, he (the speaker) had been presented and instituted to the living of St. Peter's, London Docks, and he had made plain that he could hardly, consistently with his duty as a clergyman, looking to the Archbishop in his spiritual character as being the chief representative of the law of the Church in this land in spiritual matters, have acted otherwise than as he had done. He repeated that he could not have consented to the proposal if it had seemed to him he was ignoring what he had already insisted upon, that the State courts had no sort of jurisdiction in spiritual matters, but were restricted to things temporal, having absolute authority in all matters concerning the bodies, lives, and property of all men; but, as souls belong to Christ alone, he would reiterate, had jurisdiction except Christ and these. He had sent out and ordained by His Holy Spirit to administer to souls. Short of an intervention of God, had things come on and someone been appointed to the charge of the church, that person would have been an intruder and a schismatic, the church would no longer have been the altar of the parish, and the result would have been confusion. Had he (Mr. Mackonochie) withdrawn, he would not have been able to make arrangements for a successor with whom he was sure they would be satisfied. On December 5th he received a letter from the Bishop of London, who wrote expressing his satisfaction with the conclusion arrived at, and his appreciation of the motives leading to it, adding:—"I have never ceased, I can say in all sincerity, to value your own worth or that of your work, and I venture to hope that, under altered circumstances, these strained relations may be relaxed which arise so readily between those who call themselves ministers of the law and those who consider themselves unable in conscience to observe it." Mr. Mackonochie then described his feelings on leaving the church with which he had been associated for nearly twenty-one years, and declared his belief that corners would be rubbed off, and that the church would be the more united by the glorious name of Evangelists had been a little deceived, and among them were those who were coming to the belief that they at St. Alban's did hold Evangelical truth. He added that, acting on a hint and not a request, he had decided to take the path of least resistance, and to represent the Virgin Mary, with him, and he hoped they would not consider him cowardly in so doing.

THE DRAMA.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

No more interesting new play, says the *Observer*, has for a very long time been set before London theatre-goers than that with which the St. James's Theatre re-opened on Saturday last. It is not easy to determine how much Mr. B. C. Stephenson, the author of *Impulse*, owes to the French source on which he has avowedly founded his work. *La Maison du Mari* is little known in England, or, indeed, in Paris, of recent years; and although the subject of a non-English original is traceable in several of the motives of Mr. Stephenson's piece, there seems reason to think that he has departed from it very widely in some of his incidents and characters. The first act, which, like its successor, is full of rapid action, is chiefly occupied in setting forth the life of Mrs. Macdonald, the young and flighty wife of a colonel absent on three years' foreign service. Mrs. Macdonald, who married her worthy husband while she was still fascinated by her unworthy lover, Victor de Riel, is unfortunately enough to be thrown into that gentleman's society. Happily she has her father, Sir H. Auckland, and her sister, Mrs. Beresford, to watch over her interests. Mrs. Beresford, especially, who is a charming widow, and knows the world, is an invaluable guardian for the weak and giddy woman; but even her sound advice and sisterly care are in vain. Matters are precipitated, as usual, by an accident. In the midst of De Riel's passionate entreaties that she will fulfil her half-promise and elope with him, and while she is still battling for self-control, a telegram is put into her hand. It tells her that Colonel Macdonald is on his way home, some months earlier than he had been expected—may, indeed, arrive at almost any moment. Guilty as she is in thought, though not in deed, she feels that she dares not meet him. Her lover seizes his opportunity, presses his argument, and makes her consent to drive off at once in his carriage, whilst, to avoid raising suspicion, he travels by train to their first destination. No sooner is she gone than her sister discovers her flight. Mrs. Beresford is for the moment at her wits' end to know how to act upon her discovery, and yet prevent its becoming general. To hide the scandal from her father and from his gossiping visitor, Miss Kilmore, is all-important; so, too, it is all-important that Mrs. Macdonald should get home before her husband's return. In her despair she confides in her faithful, but foolish, lover, Captain Crichton, a gallant young officer, whose admiration for the brilliant widow strikes him almost dumb. In spite of his rather inane laugh, and his habit of saying "Don't you know?" at the end of every sentence, Crichton is a good fellow, and a tolerably shrewd one. So, as he rides off to Doddington to intercept the fugitives, he thinks himself of a scheme for getting De Riel out of the way while he interviews Mrs. Macdonald on her arrival at the rendezvous. He sends a delicious message from the lady to the gentleman, and reaching the Bell Inn—where they are to meet—before

Mrs. Macdonald, installs himself there to receive her on her arrival. But, in the meantime, startling events have occurred at the home from which Mrs. Macdonald has fled. Her husband has returned, and even while her sister is vainly making excuses for her absence, news is brought that the girl's father has been thrown from his horse at the village gates and seriously injured. Now it is clear that the absent daughter must be fetched, and at once. What, the Colonel asks, is the meaning of the delay? Miss Kilmore's malicious tongue soon hints at it; and poor Mrs. Beresford, loyal to the last, is compelled by force to give up the note left behind her by Mrs. Macdonald on her mad departure. Once more has the unhappy lady seemed on the verge of being saved in spite of herself. Once more has fate declared itself against her. Her husband learns her intended sin, and, though he is in time to prevent it, allows her to return home only that she may nurse her sick father. For the future she is to have a place in the "husband's house" but not in the husband's heart. To a certain extent the scruples which have doubtless modified the wife's offence weaken the note here. By the intervention of Captain Crichton, Mrs. Macdonald has been prevented from even meeting with her lover at the inn, whereas the tone adopted towards her would be applicable if he had actually carried out her reckless purpose. Yet is the situation so well worked up, after the whole of the comedy, Colonel Macdonald's attitude hardly seems overstrained. Later on, indeed, it becomes completely justified by the persistent manner in which De Riel compromises the weak woman whom he has in his power. To the illustration of this rather painful comedy, Mrs. Macdonald to introduce him to her husband under his new title. This she does by threatening her that if she refuses he will make himself known to the Colonel, and will compel him to fight a duel. The scene in which the introduction is wrought out of the terrified woman is striking enough, but De Riel's conduct here becomes monstrous in its cruelty. The relationship between the two is not and has not been such as to explain such a proceeding, either on his part or on hers. She, indeed, poor, weak creature, is now anxious only to escape from the affection of the husband who sternly keeps her at arm's length; and it is agony to her to deceive him even while she is making her faint-hearted efforts at conciliation. But she is not long kept in suspense; the dreaded discovery of De Riel's infidelity is made. It is made by Colonel Macdonald, who promptly lays his plans for trapping, as he believes, his faithless wife. An ingenious device causes the dreaded secret to be innocently told by the wife's blind old father to the son-in-law, whom he is gently upbraiding for lack of devotion to his daughter. The Colonel keeps his discovery to himself, leaves his wife alone in her rooms at the Grand Hotel, and returns unexpectedly to find, as he anticipated, that De Riel has made his way in from his adjoining apartment; but, so far from encouraging his impassioned suit, Mrs. Macdonald is repelling it with all the moral and physical means at her command. Without knowing who overhears her, and avows her love for her husband alone, and aided at last by good fortune—finds that husband's strong arm placed around to protect her in her moment of dire necessity. After this the play comes to De Riel should either be punished or dismissed with a severe reprimand and a caution not to commit himself after this fashion again. The latter alternative is adopted, and though, perhaps, it comes somewhat tamely after so many spirited scenes, it is so neatly managed as to be highly effective.

The dramatist personifies chiefly to the share of Miss Linda Dietz, who indicates gracefully the moral weakness of Mrs. Macdonald, to Mr. Wenman, who gives a touch of pathos to the manly indignation of the husband, and to Mr. Deane, who as De Riel, plays a very difficult rôle, and plays it with moderation, and in good taste. But whilst acknowledging the excellent service done by these performers it would not be fair to overlook the still greater influence exerted by the comedy of Mr. Kendall Crichton and Mr. Kendal as Mrs. Beresford.

NOVELTY THEATRE.

Before the members of the recently-burnt Alhambra Theatre have been extinguished, a new theatre has arisen to compete for public favour. The Novelty Theatre, which opened its doors for the first time on Saturday night, occupies an advantageous position, immediately facing the Freemasons' Tavern, in Lang-acre, almost on the site of the ancient "Duke's Theatre," at which, under the management of Rich, *The Beggar's Opera* was produced. On entering the doors of the theatre, the visitor finds himself in an exceptionally large vestibule, with a fine staircase, and stone staircases lead thence to the stalls, dress-circle, etc., and from every part of the house there are two exits, with doors opening outwards. The passages, lobbies, waiting-rooms, etc., are handsomely fitted, and the interior of the theatre is attractive, gilding being the principal tints, and the hangings being chiefly of the colour known as "peacock blue." A large, though not overflowing audience was attracted by the opening of the new theatre, and an announcement of a new comic opera in three acts, entitled *Melita*, the libretto by Julia Kennerley, the music by Henry Pontet. The new opera was placed on the stage with great liberality of expenditure; the dresses—designed by Wilhelm, and executed by Mrs. May—being tasteful and costly; the scenery, by Mr. Albert Calcott, of remarkable excellence, the *mise en scene* all that could be desired, and a well-selected band of twenty-six performers being zealously directed by Mr. Otto Langley. It is to be regretted that the theatre is not provided for such an occasion. The plot of *Melita* is so weak that any description of it would be a waste of time and space; the music is inoffensive, but hopelessly uninteresting.

The Olympic Theatre, which early in the new year will come under the management of Miss Genevieve Ward, is temporarily occupied by Miss Marie de Grey with a representation of *Adrienne Lecouvreur*. The performance generally is of an order which might, perhaps, pass muster on a provincial stage, but it is by no means up to the accepted metropolitan standard. The management of the Savoy theatre is prompt in affording aid to the many sufferers by the recent destruction of the Alhambra at the worst possible season for theatrical employments to lose their engagements. To these unfortunate people the theatre has made a special morning performance of *Iolanthe*, on Wednesday will be given. The Christmas entertainment at St. George's Hall is to comprise new pieces, entitled *A Strange Host*; or, *A Happy New Year*, and *That Dreadful Boy*. The first of these is written by Mr. Arthur Law, with music by Mr. King Hall; the second is by Messrs. Gilbert A'Beckett and Corney Grain. The

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LONDON, DECEMBER 11—12, 1882.

The funeral of Mr. William Galignani will take place at the Church of the Madeleine on Thursday, at noon.—Galignani's establishment will be closed on Thursday.

THE FOG-DEMON.

over the bed-room window, and impeded every semblance of view of that mysterious district popularly known as "overboard way." The streets had not the muffled sound which is so familiar to Londoners when snow is on the roadways, nor there fell upon the ear ghostly torches of hollow voices. Links and torches glimmered in the gloom, lighting the devout to early service. The faithful could be heard at intervals of the tolling and report of the fog-signals on the adjacent railroad. Otherwise the London world was still as the grave. The cabmen were surely the most sensible people, for presumably they defied conventionality and kept religiously in bed; anyhow, scarcely a cab was to be seen, and from an early hour the best cabstands were deserted. London on a Sunday is not a cheerful place at the best of times, but the atmosphere of a vault or catacomb would be positively exhilarating compared to a foggy London Sunday. Miserable, indeed, it must have been for the shopmen and shopgirls in the warehouses and large establishments, who can only get about on Sunday; yet, perhaps, they were, as usual, stumbling across and jostling one another on the usual promenade of Oxford and Regent-streets. It grew denser and more miserable as the evening wore on. The ordinary gas-lamps were powerless to illumine the murky scene, and only at Charing-cross, where the new burners have been substituted, was daylight in any way made visible. The churches were alone more to their duty, and they became more crowded than ever, seeing that they were the only cheerful beacons on London's foggy horizon. Most of the restaurants gave up business as hopeless, and the consequence was that many of the unfortunate people whose landlords refuse to cook on Sunday went dinnerless and supperless to bed. The cabs gradually drew off; the omnibuses went home. All the pleasant little dinner-parties were spoiled, for the guests could not arrive. Even the men were hindered from fulfilling their social obligations by the earnest entreaties of the womenkind, who appear on behalf of their lords and masters to dread a fog even worse than a lark or a burglar. As night fell London looked and felt like a deserted city, it was so lonely, and the home-coming passenger, trusting to instinct and groping his way by the railings, was suddenly startled by the sound of weird and unearthly music that arose from the smoking vapour. It was only the "Adagio in Vaits" alternating the hymn of "Adagio Fideles" with the melancholy refrain "Love Not." Apparently it is hopeless to seek a cure for fogs or even to alleviate the misery and wretchedness they cause. As Londoners are larger the fogs become thicker. We are told not to burn so many coal fires; but, on the other hand, it is known that the fogs are occasionally as thick in Paris, where they burn nothing but wood. It is no consolation whatever to be told by some genial Mark Tapley that it was glorious this morning at Richmond, or sunny at Hampstead, or the "finest day you ever saw in your life" on "Wimbledon Common; in fact, such remarks are an aggravation to the original offence. How can it matter what it is at Richmond, Hampstead, or Wimbledon to those who are bound to live in London, and are not likely to go to any of those places before next summer? Eminent men have done wonders in the way of scientific discoveries; they have appointed committees at Societies of Arts; but the fog still comes down and poisons us every year. It seems as if the minded mariner has allayed the fury of the waves which threatened to break up his steamer when getting over the bar into the harbour, by sending out the supply of lamp ammunition, and literally "pouring oil on the troubled waters"; but fogs apparently conquer acquired scientific knowledge, and baffle the ingenuity of man. No one has ever suggested artillerymen as a remedy for fog. It is on record that a Royal salute, when fired from a garrison gun, brings down the rain most effectively. A simple yolley has before now caused a shower. Presumably the Government would not demur to the expenditure of a salute from the St. James's Park or Tower gus in order to frighten away the fog. Or, again, there is the recent theory of concentrated will and amalgamated intention. If the combined will of four million of inhabitants anxious to have a merry holiday can secure a fine day whenever Her Majesty takes part in a state pageant, surely without committing oneself to the delicate difficulty of thought-reading, or bothering our heads about "involutionary muscular action," it would be no bad plan to organise an hour for universal concentration whenever the metropolis becomes as hideous as it has been recently. The acclimatised Londoner, regarding his throat and respiratory organs, cares

WINDSOR CASTLE, MONDAY.

The *Morning Post* is requested to state that there is no foundation for the report that Lord Houghton has recently been seized with paralysis. His lordship has been suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis, brought on by exposure to the weather, from which he is now convalescent.

The works of Art, the furniture and pictures given to the nation by the late Mr. Jones were exposed to private view at the South Kensington Museum on Monday. The weather was so unfavourable that the number of people who came to see the pictures was small, but the tickets for which there would have been keen competition in a kinder season. The same fog which daunted the less ardent spirits cruelly diminished the pleasure of those who seek out the museums. In the Catalogue, however, no mention is made of the Catalogue, nor yet of the Collection for themselves, and long before this could be done it became too late to appreciate, or even to see them. A notice given under such circumstances can be at best a critical note, and not a recommendation. It is, however, that the gift is well worth the nation's gratitude. In each individual department, perhaps, finer works of Art exist, but such a uniform array of first-class examples has rarely been brought together. Mr. Jones's taste seems to have been directed to the middle of the last century and ended towards the beginning of this. Many other times and styles are displayed, but the bulk of the Collection is dated from this time. There are two little drawings in the quaint and inimitable manner of Jacob Cats, one in water-colour and the other in *gouache*. They are curious, like tinted etchings; some parts resemble them in the minuteness of the work, and some in the first gallery one finds the walls lined, the centre occupied with cabinets and pedestals and candelabra, writing-tables, and furniture of the best French date. If in this large gallery there are no specimens of the most important schools of those in the Hamletto Collection, there are some that almost make up for them, and none that are not admirable. The

Mr. Fawcett was scarcely so well on Monday night. Early in the afternoon hemorrhage from the air passages returned, and although deamout of blood lost was considerable, the recurrence of the symptom naturally gave rise to fresh uneasiness. In all other respects the condition of the right hon. gentleman may be considered satisfactory, and the indications favourable. The following are the terms of Monday's bulletins. The later report, though dated 7.0 p.m., was not made public until a quarter past eight.

Dec. 11 7.0 p.m.
 "There has been a return of the hemorrhage
 this afternoon, and anxiety is occasioned, not only
 by its amount, but by its locality."
 (Signed) "ANDREW CLARK, M.D.
 "E. WRIGHT, M.R.C.S.
 "J. FORD ANDERSON, M.D.
 "E. GARRETT-ANDERSON, M.D.

Upon inquiry at two o'clock on Tuesday morning we (*Standard*) were informed that, while passing a rather restless night, Mr. Fawcett was in no respect worse, and that there had been no return of the unfavourable symptoms manifested during yesterday afternoon.

A well-attended meeting was held in the

saloon of Drury-lane Theatre on Monday, under the presidency of Lord Londesborough, to take steps for the relief of those who were thrown out of employ by the recent fire at the Alhambra Theatre. The chairman stated that nearly 500 of the *employés*, of whom many of whom were living from hand to mouth for the necessities of life, were thrown out of employ. This was the more to be regretted because nearly all the theatres had engaged all the assistance which was required, and therefore there was no probability of any other engagements. He was happy to say that promises had been made on behalf of the Savoy, the Court, and the Novelty Theatres to give performances on behalf of the sufferers. It was necessary to appeal at once to the charitable public, for there were so many cases for relief, that it was probable that the *employés* would be always ready to assist those who were connected with the theatrical profession, and he believed they only needed to be appealed to in the present case to come forward with liberality. Mr. Sutton (on behalf of the Alhambra Company) wished to contradict a statement which had been made, and pointed to the effect that many of those who were engaged at the Alhambra Theatre had obtained fresh places, but the fact was that very few indeed of them had fresh places. That fact should be made widely known, because otherwise the contributions of many persons would be withheld. The chairman said that the great amount of work by the numbering about 500—were without any sort of engagement. It was announced that a number of subscriptions had already been sent on behalf of the fund to be raised, and to be called "The Alhambra Employés' Relief Fund." The meeting then adjourned to hold a committee of enquirer (Lord Londesborough accepting the last-mentioned office), and it was stated that subscriptions might be sent to Messrs. Ransom, bankers, Pall-Mall East.

Her Majesty's Government having asked the Malagasy Envoys for further and specific information respecting their complaints against the French, the Envoys on Monday informed the Foreign Secretary that they had signed a treaty with the French, the first, a protectorate over the North-west Coast of Madagascar for twenty, 99 years' lease of land; and thirdly, general rights over the whole island. With respect to the claim of the heirs of M. de la Borde to be put in possession of the land left by their uncle during his life, a person who signed the treaty, the French Government declared that he declares that he had not the land, but merely the buildings erected on it. These buildings the Queen's Government were prepared to pay for at a valuation. With regard to the Arab *dhows* *Touté*, which came to Madagascar under the French flag, the Queen's Government had made a statement—An out-cast from Zanzibar who had married a Sakalava woman, and so became a Chief, rebelled against the Queen's Government, and was attacked and conquered by one of the remaining loyal chiefs of that end of the island. This Chief, however, was killed. The out-cast, being a friend for his enemy, at first tried to prevent their landing by using the Queen's name as an authority, when his men were fired upon by the Arabs, and in the contest which ensued the latter were killed.

By invitation, the Malagasy Envoys met the Directors of the London Missionary Society in Bloomsbury-street, where an Mission House presented to them by the latter, in which the Society assured the Envoys that they received them as representatives of the Queen and Government of Madagascar with the French flag, and that the houses connected with the interests of their country which have rendered their visit necessary. The Directors said they were glad to learn that their Queen was a Christian Sovereign, and that her Government was carried on by Christian principles, and they desired to see the Christian salutations for the facilities she had given them at all times for their work. The Ambassadors acknowledged in warm terms the indebtedness of their country to the labours of the London Missionary Society, and felt sure their Queen would receive with pleasure their salutations, and that the calamities which now threatened them would be averted.

RITIOUS SCENE AT COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE.—The season of promenade concerts at Covent-Garden Theatre was brought to a close on Monday evening with what was styled a "grand extra special night." Special attractions had been provided, but unfortunately, by the action of a body of young men, some 50 or 60 in strong, the enjoyment of the concert by the large number of people who were present was greatly lessened. They marched round and round in a compact body and frequently interrupted the vocalists, till at last Mr. Maas, who was singing the "Bay of Biscay," left the platform in disgust. A portion of the large confusion ensued, the progress of the entertainment being for some time suspended. At length a strong body of constables who had been sent for to quell the disturbance appeared on the scene, and after a very considerable difficulty succeeded in dispersing some of the principal rioters. Mr. A. Gwyllyn Crowe, under whose direction the concerts had been held, then gave the signal to the orchestra to perform the National Anthem, and so the entertainment was brought to an abrupt end. The principal and the most annoying items which were included in the second portion of the programme being omitted.

So far as the fog would allow, the metropolitan parks presented on Sunday a wintry appearance, especially at Hyde-park, where the trees and grass were coated with hoar-frost. At noon on Saturday the thermometer at the Royal Society's registered house registered 35 deg. Towards evening the mercury fell rapidly, and at ten o'clock there were seven degrees of frost—the lowest temperature, with one exception, since the 19th of January, 1880, when there was 13 deg. of frost. At an early hour on Sunday the fog was so dense that it was impossible to see more than a distance of 100 yds. In the south and south-east districts the fog was intense. The traffic was much impeded and carried on with great difficulty and danger. The metropolitan and suburban railway traffic was materially delayed, and some of the trains were half an hour late at the terminus. The roads were very simply impenetrable, and many persons lost their way. Conductors of omnibuses in the north-western district on Sunday evening had to walk in front of the horses' heads with lamps. Several accidents were reported. Another fog promised for Friday morning, but it was so much inconvenient that the steamboat traffic was suspended on the river.

There was a severe frost in the Preston district on Sunday, and the pits were frozen over. A number of persons ventured on the ice before it was strong enough to bear, and several were killed or injured, and immersed. An engineer named Booth was drowned in the afternoon at Cadley, owing to the ice giving way. On Sunday afternoon a number of lads were sliding on a brickpadd at Rotherham, when the ice gave way, and several of them were hurled some forty or fifty yards from the side. On Sunday afternoon two brothers named Armstrong, one twelve years and the other nine years old, living at Handsworth, Birmingham, were sliding on a pool in the locality, when the ice gave way, and they were hurled into the water. An accident happened at Oswaldtwistle, near Acreington, on Sunday. A number of youths were skating on a lodge connected with a paper-mill, when the ice gave way, and two brothers named James were immersed. The younger brother was saved, but the other was drowned, and had to be cut up to be taken down to land, but the efforts to rescue the other boy were fruitless. Several other fatal ice accidents are reported.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* at Maritzburg writes:—Sir Henry Bulwer is, or has been, elaborating a scheme for the settlement of Zululand, in support of which I have little doubt long arguments will be put forward in ably-written despatches. I will venture to predict that the conditions laid down by Sir Henry Bulwer will no more hold good in respect of Zululand than the conditions fixed by the Congress of Vienna have held good in respect of Europe. The reason for this is very simple. The purely official mind, not being, as Mr. Arnold would say, susceptible of ideas, seeks to impose artificial restraints instead of leaving natural forces to settle themselves. It is precisely the determination to cling to the first assumption of the map of the world, that has led to all the trouble on the south-west frontier of the Transvaal. The same error will assuredly lead to trouble in Zululand. This is no pleasant prospect, without saying anything about the cruel detention of Cetewayo at Capetown while Sir H. Bulwer is elaborating an unworkable scheme. Viewed, therefore, in the broad aspect of the world, the scheme of Sir Henry is a bad one. The nation takes that two distinct aspects of national policy should be marred and robbed of their good result by the pique and obstinacy of the permanent officials, because it is only too notorious that it is they, and not the political heads of the Colonial office, who practically direct the policy that is being followed. That, those officials are not to be trusted, is no probably doubt. But they are, unfortunately for themselves, removed beyond the touch of public opinion, and are subject to no penalty whatever for blundering.

THE HAMILTON PALACE SALE.—The second portion of the Beckford Library, which had been removed from Hamilton Palace, was brought to the hammer on Monday at the Auction Rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge, Wellington-street, Strand, commencing at eleven o'clock, and ending twelve days later, ending on the 23rd inst. The sale consisted of 247 lots, out of the total of 2,733 volumes, which, alphabetically, will bring the partly disposed-of library from the letter G to the letter M, inclusive. During the earlier hours the attendance could not be called numerous, but those present were evidently on business, and it is probable that the bidding for comparative trifles. Amongst the purchasing public were to be observed Mr. Teclener and Mr. Morgand, commissioned from Paris; Herr Grevel, representing the German Empire; Mr. Toovey, Piccadilly; Mr. Gond, Covent-garden; Mr. Ellis, of Bond-street; Quiritch and Mr. Pearson, Pall-mall. The first large sum realised was for a portfolio, 3ft. 10½ in. height and 3ft. 4½ in. wide, manufactured for Louis XV., to hold engravings which were never placed there, and which was sold to Mr. Whitehead for £12 5s. This was followed by a small volume on which a rare value was set, viz. *Le Cabinet de la Bibliothèque des Rois*, par l'abbé Lebeuf, 1698, which was purchased by one, who bid briskly against each other until it was purchased by Mr. Quiritch, of Piccadilly, for £111. This volume, having likenesses of many eminent personages in France, bore the arms of Count Hoym in gold on the sides. Then came Lot 31, described in the catalogue as *Tableaux de la Cour Royale-Romaine*, par L'abbé Lebeuf, 1698, which was purchased by the late Lord Mayor, for £75. Between these big prices there were some smaller books purchased at sums as low as 6d. The next lot was No. 42, *Les Tragedies Grecques* of this great sale. Lot 75, Garnier's *Tragedies*, with MS. notes by Mr. Beckford, was secured by Mr. Molini for £7, whilst the same gentleman purchased a black-letter copy of the life and death of a notorious Magician for 25s. Again considerable competition was offered for a book of designs for drawings on vellum by Eisen, which were eventually knocked down to Mr. Morgand for £146. One of the most interesting lots in yesterday's catalogue was the original edition of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, from its commencement in 1731 to December, 1813, with indices—in all, 178 volumes, consoling bidding, was purchased by Mr. Molini for £36. The next lot to excite general interest was a picture by Gerini, and several engravings by Faucci, Gregori, and Polanzani, with the arms of M^{me}. de Pompadour in gold on the sides, which was sold to Mr. Morgand for £31. Next came a book, paid for by Mr. Morgan, for 43s. 6d., for Germain's "Elements d'Orfèverie," containing 100 plates. Mr. Pearson, for £20, purchased Gesner's "*Historia Plantarum*," bearing in gold on sides and back the arms and monogram of J. A. Thunius. This gentleman also purchased for £10, the book of the German four-volume work, one, beautifully bound in morocco, ornamented by Bozeman. Amongst the largest amounts subsequently obtained were,—For Gilray's Caricatures, the series consisting of 672 humorous plates—said to be the finest collection of this artist's work in existence.—£205, bid by the late Lord Grosvenor; £100, for 143 engravings by the same artist, purchased by Mr. Lawson for £260; £93 for the works of the Abbé Gérard, bound by Descul; and £50 for another edition by the same author, both purchased by M. Morgand. The first day's sale realised about £1,800,

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THE GALIGNANIS.

With Mr. William Galignani, whose death we mourn, disappears the last member of a dynasty powerful only for good, the last bearer of a name that has become a household word wherever the English language is spoken or understood. There is scarcely one English, Irish, or Scotch author of fiction or writer of reminiscences, who does not mention Galignani in some one of his productions. Macready, Thackeray, Bulwer, Trollope, Lever, and many more, have spread the name far and wide throughout the world. "We met at Galignani's," "I went down to Galignani's," "He looked in at Galignani's," are quite familiar phrases in the literature of the first half of the nineteenth century. This celebrity is owing in the first place to J. Galignani, the father, a man who displayed the highest genius for true journalism on an intelligent and a grand scale, when the London Times was not half so big in size as the contemporary London Echo, and half a century before a Walter, a Mudford, a Gordon Bennett, or a Levy had been so much as heard of. From 1814 to the present day Galignani's Messenger, Galignani's Reading Room, Galignani's Library, were the boon of boons for all English-speaking and many foreign visitors to Paris. For the work so intelligently begun by the elder Galignani was admirably continued by his two worthy sons, Anthony and William. It is nearly a decade since the former left this world full of years, crowned with worldly honours and accompanied by the blessings of hundreds to whom he had been a benefactor. He and his brother, just departed, had entertained at their table all the literary celebrities of England, who had ever called upon them in Paris, which few failed to do, even in the days when author's rights were an unknown quantity in the book-trade of the Continent. The dynasty of the Galignanis has now disappeared; but the power they laid the foundation of, in creating the Messenger on the broad, generous and liberal line of journalism as now understood, more than half a century after the idea first occurred to them, a power used only for good, still persists, and will flourish as long as there are to be found lovers of healthy, impartial, honest, and interesting newspaper matter.

With regard to Mr. William Galignani personally, there are few who will be more truly mourned; for all who knew him honoured him for the simple dignity of his life. By his integrity and sound judgment in business; by the absolute confidence in his personal character, which he commanded through life, and favoured by prevailing good fortune, he rose from modest beginnings to great wealth and personal influence. He became an Officer of the order of the Legion of Honour, and was for very many years the mayor of Etolles, in the department of Seine-et-Oise. The moderation with which he enjoyed his wealth and influence, and the liberality with which he dispensed it, made his life a great example. He valued wealth as the means of personal independence with regard to himself, it is true, but more for the power it gave him of doing good to others. His benefactions, and those of his brother, were very considerable both in number and amount. Every meritorious appeal, every incorporated charity, every association for the relief of want, were the objects of his liberality. Many who read these lines will be able to bear witness to their truth. We believe that everyday of his life was a blessing to some one, for his great riches flowed like a fountain, distributing, in a hundred channels, comfort and relief to the unfortunate. In connection with his brother he erected in Paris a hospital for the benefit of English and Americans. Hundreds of these, strangers in this great city, friendless and despairing, have experienced the blessings provided for them by these generous brothers. The buildings and grounds of that hospital were handed over, in 1876, to the Association of the Mission Home for the protection of American and English young women in Paris, and converted into a home for English and American orphans in Paris. At Corbeil he and his brother founded and endowed a hospital, with spacious grounds, an orphanage and a school for poor girls, at a cost of nearly £10,000. Mr. William Galignani did not, as too many rich men do, make the poor wait for his death, but used the present hour to do good, and to show how a generous man may scatter blessings in his path through life. Thousands there are whom he never knew, relieved by his kindness, who will bless his memory, and recall his name with gratitude and affectionate respect. The little orphans will gather round the grave of their benefactor, and the poor will miss the friendly hand. Friends will mourn for the good and kindly man, who lived an earnest and useful life, and who found his greatest happiness in gentle acts of sympathy and kindness. Dead, he yet speaketh by the example of his honourable life. For many years before his death Mr. William Galignani had retired altogether from business.

The funeral of Mr. William Galignani will take place at the Church of the Madeleine on Thursday, at noon.—Galignani's establishment will be closed on Thursday.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 11—12, 1882.

THE CABINET CHANGES.

Mr. Gladstone's visit to Windsor on Monday may safely be regarded as having some connection with the impending changes in the Cabinet, of which a good deal has lately been heard. The entire scheme of Ministerial reconstruction is not yet decided upon; but there is reason to believe that when it is known it will be found to proceed upon the following lines:—Lord Derby will enter the Cabinet as Secretary of State for India, Lord Hartington will replace Mr. Childers at the War Office, and Mr. Childers will relieve Mr. Gladstone of his responsibilities as Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is obvious that one of the consequences of this arrangement will be not only to lighten the official labours of the Prime Minister, but also to reduce his Parliamentary duties. As head of one of the great spending departments of the State, over which he has presided before, Lord Hartington will occupy a position of fresh importance in the popular Chamber, and will doubtless discharge more than he does at present of the actual functions of Leadership. He has worked hard and successfully at the India Office, and has mastered the details of its routine with great thoroughness. In going to the War Office he will return to a post which he occupied sixteen years ago, but he will do so with the added authority of time and of experience. The accession of Mr. Childers to the Chancellorship of the Exchequer is in accordance with general expectations. A fortnight before the close of the Session the Prime Minister intimated that the post would be delegated to one of his colleagues with as little delay as possible, and it was known, almost beyond a doubt, that this colleague would be the Secretary of State for War. Mr. Childers has had charge of the War Office during a period of exceptional strain and anxiety. His attention to his duties has been unremitting, and has perceptibly, though it may be hoped only temporarily, told upon his health. The Chancellorship of the Exchequer, when the Prime Minister and the next claimant to the dignity of Prime Minister, as Lord Hartington unquestionably is, are in the House of Commons, is one of the lightest of Cabinet offices. Mr. Childers will find the introduction of the Budget once a year, and the task of replying to such questions as relate to the Treasury, comparatively light after the burden he has borne during the past nine months in Pall-mall. Mr. Childers, moreover, has the special knowledge which will qualify him for the position, as well as some of the actual experience. As long ago as 1868 it excited some surprise that Mr. Gladstone should not have selected him for the Chancellorship in preference to Mr. Lowe. Mr. Childers is also understood to possess in a special degree the confidence of his Chief, and the relations which the Prime Minister is thrown with the Chancellor of the Exchequer are necessarily of a special and intimate kind. But of the announcements which we are now enabled to make, it is indisputably the introduction of Lord Derby into the Cabinet as Indian Secretary that is of the greatest importance, and that will excite the greatest interest. Rumour had, indeed, upon several occasions forecast and outstripped the event which has now actually occurred. Ever since Lord Derby crossed over to the Ministerial benches it has been periodically asserted that room would speedily be found for him in Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet. The resignation of the Duke of Argyll, the visit of the Prime Minister to Knowlesley, the more recent retirement of Mr. Bright, were each of them the occasions for a repetition of the report in tones of the utmost confidence. What seemed powerful reasons against its fulfilment were, it is true, forthcoming. Lord Derby was the last man in the world to approve much in the domestic policy of the Government, and, in point of fact, he had roundly condemned a substantial portion of it. If he supported the Compensation for Disturbance Bill, he had prepared a searching speech against the Land Act, which was not delivered in Parliament, but which subsequently saw the light in the pages of a monthly magazine. In the same way, last summer, Lord Derby scrutinised with severity the Argyll Act; and if his action had been as logical as his remarks were critical, he would have gone into the Opposition lobby. But Lord Derby as a Liberal has displayed the same qualities which distinguished him as a Conservative. He speaks now as he did then with one side, and he votes now as he voted then with the other. It is generally assumed that the acquisition of Lord Derby will be a guarantee of considerably increased strength to the Cabinet. The new Secretary of State for India has a complete knowledge of the affairs of the Asiatic Empire, and served, in the same capacity as he is now about to do, in the Cabinet of distinguished fame nearly a quarter of a century since. But the value which Mr. Gladstone may realise in his new recruit is not limited by his past knowledge of the India Office. Lord Derby is rightly famous for his clear common sense, and for the power he possesses of turning the dry light of his intellect into any subject that presents itself for discussion. This is pre-eminently the attribute which Englishmen admire, and which wins their confidence. Lord Derby is not identified with extreme opinions of any kind; he is rather known persistently to distrust such opinions; and, therefore, those who have apprehensions as to what Mr. Gladstone may do in the future will be bidden to borrow reassurance from the fact that the cautious presence of Lord Derby operates as a restraining force upon the impetuosity of the Premier and some of his associates. How far his accession to Mr. Gladstone will tend to be a source of inherent strength to the Government is a different matter. Lord Derby has never commanded himself to the Cabinet, and he is now represented in the Cabinet, and it remains to be seen whether, if he insists upon asserting himself by a display of the judicial moderation and of the other similar qualities which he is known to possess, his assistance at the Councils of Downing-street will have a strictly harmonising influence.—Standard.

THE FOG-DEMON.

Sunday last was a cheerful experience in the history of memorable London fogs. It was not quite so bad, perhaps, as the night of Saturday, January 31, 1880, when the new Haymarket Theatre was opened, and the audience took ill day-break to arrive at the Cromwell-road or Haverstock-hill. Then the fog came on suddenly, and surprised the audience in a loving world. Cabs were floundering on the pavement and omnibuses halting disoriented their dazed and belated passengers. Then men were hired at extravagant prices to guide a horse's head from Charing-cross to Bloomsbury, and exploring parties were hopelessly lost in the Seven Dials. It was on this memorable occasion that an ingenious gentleman, stumbling across a stationary and bewildered policeman lifted his stick and knocked off the helmet of the inoffensive member of the force. "Come, now," observed the policeman; "what ever did you do that for?" "I want to be taken up," answered the stranger. "Taken up? why, what for?" "Because I know you must take me to the police station, and you ought to know the way, and because there at any rate I shall get a fire and a bed. Take me up, then, or I will report you for neglecting your duty." Nor was Sunday quite as bad as a memorable Christmas Day, when all the calls were stopped and nobody saw anybody, and when the fog, with cruel inconsistency, changed its colour and became ink-black instead of yellow. Still Sunday was bad enough to give the lively foreigner a very disagreeable impression of the London climate in winter. Nobody on awaking in the morning could accurately discover if it were to-day or the day before yesterday. A thick yellow curtain had fallen down before the bedroom window, and impeded every semblance of view of that mysterious district popularly known as "over-the-way." The streets had not the muffled sound which is so familiar to Londoners when snow is on the roadways, but there fell upon the ear ghostly echoes of hollow voices. Links and torches glimmered in the gloom, lighting the devout to early service. Fittily could be heard at intervals the dead report of the fog-signals on the adjacent railroad. Otherwise the London world was still as the grave. The cabmen were surely the most sensible people, for presumably they defied conventionality and kept religiously in bed; anyhow, scarcely a cab was to be seen, and from an early hour the best cabstands were deserted. London on a Sunday is not a cheerful place, and it is not a cheerful place to be in. As London becomes larger the fogs become thicker. Miserable, indeed, it must have been for the shopmen and shopgirls in the warehouses and large establishments, who can only get about on Sunday; yet, perhaps, they were, as usual, stumbling across and jostling one another on the usual promenade of Oxford and Regent-streets. It grew denser and more miserable as the evening wore on. The ordinary gas-lamps were powerless to illumine the murky scene, and only at Charing-cross, where the new burners have been substituted, was darkness in any way made visible. The churches were alone true to their duties, and they became more crowded than ever, seeing that they were the only cheerful beacons on London's foggy horizon. Most of the restaurants gave up business as hopeless, and the consequence was that many of the unfortunate people whose landlords refuse to cook on Sunday went dinnerless and supperless to bed. The cabs gradually drew off; the omnibuses went home. All the pleasant little dinner-parties were spoiled, for the guests could not arrive. Even the men were hindered from fulfilling their social obligations by the earnest entreaties of the womenkind, who appear on behalf of their lords and masters to dread a fog even worse than a battle or a buglar. As night fell London looked and felt like a deserted city, it was so lonely, and the home-coming passenger, trusting to instinct and groping his way by the railings, was suddenly startled by the sound of weird and unearthly music that arose from the choking vapour. It was only the Christmas Vails alternating the hymn of "Adeste Fideles" with the melancholy refrain "Love Not." Apparently it is hopeless to seek a cure for fogs or even to alleviate the misery and wretchedness they cause. As London becomes larger the fogs become thicker. We are told not to burn so many coal fires; but, on the other hand, it is known that the fogs are occasionally as thick in Paris, where they burn nothing but wood. It is no consolation whatever to be told by some genial Mark Tapley that it was glorious this morning at Richmond, or sunny at Hampstead, or the "finest day you ever saw in your life" on Wimbledon Common; in fact, such remarks are an aggravation to the original offence. How can it matter what it is at Richmond, Hampstead, or Wimbledon to those who are bound to live in London, and not like some of the next summer? Eminent men have done wonders in the way of scientific discoveries; they have appointed committees at Societies of Arts; but the fog still comes down and poisons us every year. Recently a simple-minded mariner has allayed the fury of the waves which threatened to break up his steamer when getting over the bar into the harbour, by emptying out his supply of lamp ammunition, and literally "pouring oil on the troubled waters"; but fogs apparently conquer acquired scientific knowledge, and baffle the ingenuity of man. No one has ever suggested artillery salvoes as a remedy for fog. It is on record that a Royal salute, when fired from a garrison gun, brings down the rain most effectually. A simple volley has before now caused a shower. Presumably the Government would not demur to the expense of a salute from the St. James's Park or Tower guns in order to frighten away the fog. Or, again, there is the recent theory of concentrated will and amalgamated intention. If the combined will of four million of inhabitants anxious to have a merry holiday can secure a fine day whenever Her Majesty takes part in a state pageant, surely without committing ourselves to thought-reading, or "othering" our heads about "involutionary muscular action," it would be no bad plan to organise an hour for universal concentration will whenever the metropolis becomes as hideous as it has been recently. The acclimatised Londoner, as regards his throat and respiratory organs, cares

very little for fogs except the difficulty of getting about and scrambling for a seat in the Underground Railway. Use is a second nature to him, and fogs do not choke the Londoner so much as his country cousin. As on compensation, however, for the recent fogs, there is a prospect of a good black frost, at which skaters are rejoicing. There will be merry days at Christmas time in the parks and enclosures at Hampstead, Hampton Court, and Hendon, if only the present film changes into bearing ice, and the skates, now well ground and sharpened, are brought seriously into action. A frost is the natural forerunner of snow-covered Father Christmas, but a downright London fog would turn the most approved mummer into a mute.—Daily Telegraph.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

WINDSOR CASTLE, MONDAY.
The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by the Hon. Horatia Stopford; and Her Majesty, with the Princess, went out this morning. The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone had an audience of the Queen to-day. Lieutenant Albert Victor Jenner, of the Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own) has had the honour of being presented to the Queen by his father, Sir William Jenner.

Earl Granville arrived on Carlton House-terrace on Monday afternoon from Walmer Castle, and will remain in town some days for official business.

The Earl of Northbrook and Lady Emma Baring returned to Stratton Park on Monday from visiting Lord and Lady Leconfield at Pottery.

The Morning Post is requested to state that the fact of the late Mr. F. W. Fawcett's death is not a family matter, but a public one, and that Lord Houghton has recently been suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis, brought on by exposure to the weather, from which he is now convalescent.

THE JONES BEQUEST.

The works of Art, the furniture and pictures given to the nation by the late Mr. Jones, were exposed to private view at the South Kensington Museum on Monday. The weather was so unfavourable that but very few persons made use of the tickets for which there would have been jealous competition in a holiday season. The same fog which denied the least ardent spirits cruelly diminished the pleasure of those who answered the summons. In the absence of a catalogue, not yet prepared, visitors had to seek out the gems of the Collection for themselves, and long they could not have done it better. The collection, as a whole, is of a high order of merit, and to appreciate, or even to see them. A notice given under such circumstances can be neither critical nor complete. It may be safely declared, however, that the gift is well worth a nation's gratitude. In each individual department, pictures, tapestries, and furniture, there is a uniform array of first-class examples rarely been brought together. Mr. Jones's taste seems to have been confined, in the main, to that period of Art which began about the middle of the last century and ended towards the beginning of this. Many other times and styles are displayed, but the bulk of the Collection is dated from that time.

The first objects that strike attention are two little drawings in the quaint and inimitable manner of Jack Cats, and in which the artist, in a few lines, has depicted a cat and a mouse in a garden. They are curiously like tinted etchings; some parts resemble, in the minuteness and patience of the work, stitches of very fine embroidery. Passing into the first gallery one finds the walls lined, the centre occupied with the elegant and tasteful furniture of the period. There are many fine French desks. If in this large gathering there are no specimens quite equal in importance to the best of those in the Hamilton Collection, there are some that almost match them, and none that are inferior. The most notable stand which Marie Antoinette gave to Mrs. Elton, afterwards Lady Auckland, is as finished as a miniature. In this respect a more pretentious cabinet beside it fails conspicuously, though for perfection of mere workmanship it is distinguished. The master touch which corrects and lines at the last, all are superb. How many pieces of marqueterie are signed Riesener, how many mouldings and mountings in ornate baroque style. The name of the artist, who we are told, was a Frenchman, we could not say without a quiver. They are many and varied, and beautiful. A pedestal secretary, by Riesener, in mahogany, with a trellis pattern, Sevres plaques, and ornate mouldings, is an example of taste and skill and patience which modern craftsmen may contemplate with admiration and despair. For a vast table in the middle space, by the same master, the owner is said to have persistently refused five thousand pounds year after year; and if the familiar article of our upholsterer is worth the twenty pounds he asks, this supreme example of what is called a writing table, which is a masterpiece of the art, is worth more than a hundred times as much. 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PARIS: PRICE 40 CENTIMES
OUT OF PARIS: 45 CENTIMES

NOTICE.

A Four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the MESSENGER, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great-Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 13-14, 1882.

MR. GLADSTONE AND LORD DERBY.

When Mr. Gladstone welcomed Lord Derby to a place in the Cabinet, he congratulated himself, no doubt, on the accession of a singularly useful ally. The speech at Manchester on Wednesday will inform him that Lord Derby prefers, before entering upon the duties of his office, to appear first in the character of the candid friend. The address is certainly one of peculiar interest and importance. As a critic of affairs Lord Derby occupies at this moment an extraordinary position. For whilst he claims, and uses, the liberty of an outsider, he speaks with all the authority of a Minister. His characteristic caution is apparent rather in the nature of his judgments than in the frankness with which he enunciates them. We appreciate his candour—so, no doubt, do his new colleagues—but we are bound to say that Ministers have little cause to be grateful for an exposition which the public will receive with disappointment if not with grave concern. With Lord Derby the position of the Liberal Party naturally claims the first place. He declines to censure, but just as little does he explicitly approve, the policy of the Government for which he is about to become responsible. From his survey, however, of Party gains and losses, he arrives at the encouraging conclusion that Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet is doing the work which the country wants to have done, and he admits that Ministers have gained as much as any one else from the rapidly changing scene. The sudden withdrawal of France—an event which the new Minister says apologetically, Lord Derby nerves himself to foresee. Lord Derby nerves himself to say plainly that, we really have interests in Egypt; but lest this should terrify any one, he hastens to explain how he would secure them. We have no business, he says it down, to remain in Egypt a day longer than is necessary to res order. A British Protectorate, under whatever name, is the cry only of a small and noisy faction at home and of the Party of Absolutism abroad, which wishes to set by the ears the two freest nations of Europe. In brief, the policy which the new Minister holds now, and to which he will perpetually refer when his colleagues are set for bolder lines, is this—that having become involved in war by the failure of the understanding with France, we are, out of deference to this discredited alliance, to sacrifice every thought of stable guarantee against the recurrence of the peril. We are, he assures us, to have a "paramount influence in Egypt; but we must incur no responsibility to maintain it. This is not the policy of the English people; and the Statesman who, at the moment of taking office, enunciates it weakens the position of the Government which he desires to strengthen. Nor will Lord Derby's remarks on the Madagascar Question be more welcome. The matters in dispute between France and the Queen of Madagascar are, he thinks it likely, a more important territory a foreigner's conclusion. As usual, Lord Derby reads facts aright; as action alone does he halt. There is nothing for us to do, he concludes gravely; English interests are not affected. But the nation will ask for further proof of this. The acquisition by France of a new dependency, commanding, on the one side, the trade of the East Coast of Africa, and, on the other, the Cape route to India, would gravely disquiet those who do not cultivate artificially the calm which is natural to Lord Derby.—*Standard*.

The Daily News says:—The congratulatory address which Mr. Gladstone received on Wednesday was no idle compliment. They expressed sentiments of admiration for his achievements and of gratitude for his services such as no other English statesman since Chatham has succeeded in arousing. Perhaps no more fitting opportunity could have been found for the speech which the most distinguished of recent converts to the Liberal party delivered at Manchester on Wednesday night. Lord Derby's remarks, interesting and valuable in themselves, derive still further weight and importance from the occasion on which they were made. His just and timely reference to the peculiarly strong position which the Government occupies at this juncture, and the difficulties which the Government now holds, was admirably suited to the day on which the Liberals throughout the country were celebrating with natural and reasonable enthusiasm the fiftieth anniversary of Mr. Gladstone's entrance on public life. But there is another aspect of Lord Derby's address which will cause it to be read with even more than usual care. In spite of his decorous reticence, the public will not fail to remember that on the position of Lord Derby himself. On the subject of joining Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet Lord Derby cannot but have felt a more than ordinary sense of responsibility. Yet the most cautious of contemporary statesmen, speaking with this address ground for prudence, could scarcely have avoided allusion to the evidence of Ministerial popularity which a great northern constituency has recently given. Liverpool, as Lord Derby tersely observed, may fairly be set against Salisbury. In his brief survey of the past Lord Derby confined himself to the affairs of Egypt and Ireland. It is worth ob-

serving, though it will excite no surprise that, while he defended the Government in respect of the policy which led to the Egyptian expedition, he expressed a very strong opinion not only against annexation in any shape, but also against an English Protectorate under whatever specious disguise. The warning was not of course intended for her Majesty's Ministers, but for Lord Derby intimated, believe that England is the stronger for every additional possession which it is incumbent on her to protect. "We have no business in Egypt," says Lord Derby with emphatic brevity, "a day longer than is necessary to restore order." That is not a novel proposition, but it is one in which we are persuaded that the majority of sober and reasonable Englishmen will thoroughly concur.

THE SETTLEMENT OF EGYPT.

Now that, to use the phrase of our Cairo correspondent, the incubus of the State trials is almost removed, the attention of the public, as of the English Government, becomes fixed on the greater question of the arrangements for the future settlement of Egypt. That this is a political question of the first importance no one doubts. It is attracting increased attention abroad; and though we need not suppose, with the *quintessence* of Constantinople, that it is one of the chief preoccupations of M. de Giers on his circular tour, the tone adopted with regard to it by the Press and the politicians of Paris shows that Lord Derby's actions are being watched with the most lively and critical interest. It is right that England should not fall behind France in interest of this kind. We are too apt, after a series of thrilling Egyptian campaigns, to take the Egyptian condition, and to leave things as they are. As the noise of the drums and trumpets dies away our attention begins to flag; we think that all has been settled when our army has been welcomed home with proper honours and the men dismissed to their barracks and their banquets. But in reality the difficulties of a task like that which the Government have undertaken in Egypt were, in one sense, only begun at Tel-el-Kebir; and it would be a misfortune if the people of England were to cease to feel the later stages of the affair the interest which they showed in the earlier. Arabi is about to disappear from the scene, and his army has long ago been scattered. The questions which he set himself to solve with the blundering self-confidence of an Oriental on whom a first success had smiled are now in the hands of others, whose skill and knowledge of all the difficulties involved are very different from his. Lord Dufferin has been for some weeks at Cairo, closely engaged in the study both of the history of Arabi's outbreak and of the mode in which the re-settlement of Egypt may be best attained. In a short time we may expect to see some authoritative statement of the resolutions to which he has come, but meanwhile indications are not wanting of the lines on which they will proceed. Lord Dufferin has had time to arrive at a clear idea of the nature of Arabi's attempt. He sees that originally the whole movement was a military quarrel between the two factions of the army, the fellah or Arab faction and the Turkish and Circassian faction; and that, in effect, the first movement of Arabi and his fellow-colonels was a movement directed against the rule of the Turkish officers, who monopolized the chief commands in the army and the chief influence in the Khedivial Court. Their first success, in February, 1881 (when the Khedive was forced to release them from arrest), made them master men; from that moment it was bitter enmity, and the question of position and perhaps of life and death, between them and the Turkish army, headed by Riaz. The September revolt, and the forcible overthrow of Riaz, was the natural result of that state of things, and with that success the danger of the movement began. The Turkish element once subjected to the fellah element in the army, the next step was for Arabi to consolidate his influence with the people and the soldiers by attacking the influence of Europeans in Egypt. In this he had, as might have been expected, an easy success. All Egyptian officials, from the higher employees at the Cairo public offices down to the village tax-gatherers, were unanimous in denouncing a foreign financial system which acted as a most efficient check upon financial corruption and the system of *baksheesh*. Every soldier and officer in the army was equally opposed to a system which kept down the military expenditure, and limited both the numbers and the pay of the soldiery. The mass of the people, too simple to reflect that the checks which the officials and the soldiers were for removing were checks established in their interest, followed blindly in the train of the "National" leaders, and soon offered the spectacle with which we are all familiar. But throughout the whole movement the leaders had a confidence that was based on other considerations than that of their own local popularity. They believed that the Sultan, forgiving them their Arabi-Turkish origin on the strength of the aid which they might lend him in his Pan-Islamic schemes, was with them. Still more, they believed that the Powers of Europe would be prevented from interfering by mutual jealousies. They were well aware of the incessant friction and the perpetual conflict of influence which had prevailed between the English and the French officials ever since the joint Control was founded, and, indeed, that dated from long before any joint Control had ever been heard of. That they should have made this calculation on this important point is not surprising. The surprising thing, perhaps, is that they proved to be wrong. The ex-Khedive, Ismail, who is credited with a number of good sayings which he may or may not have uttered, is reported to have bidden farewell to the English and French Controllers with the phrase "My unfortunate country will be your Schlegel-Holstein." Arabi thought that the two Governments were so persuaded of this danger that he might safely play what mischief he pleased; and that he was undecieved by the steady resolve of the English people that there was a point beyond which Egyptian misgovernment must not be permitted. The question is, what Lord Dufferin at this moment is, what advice he shall tender to the British Government as to the way to prevent misgovernment for the future.—*Times*.

THE WEAKNESS OF THE FRENCH BUDGET.

Under this heading the *Pall Mall Gazette* criticises M. Ribot's recent statement with reference to the Extraordinary Budget, in the Chamber of Deputies.—The writer says:—But M. Ribot's report makes much clear even to the English reader. He analyzes the figures supplied by the Minister of Public Works and the Minister of Finance; and, accepting the report of the former, puts the deficit on the Extraordinary Budget at £3,740,000. This is to say, the expenditure on public works under M. de Freycinet's scheme, as now mapped out, exceeds the available credits by that amount; and of course the whole of such credits are met by borrowed money. Since the Public Works scheme began and up to the 1st of October last the total amount of these "credits" opened for the Minister of Public Works was £69,360,000, and it is estimated that of these credits only a very small sum will remain unspent at the end of this year. M. Tirard, the Finance Minister, claimed that £5,100,000 would be so left, and that this money could be raised and used to lessen the deficit at the end of 1883. This estimate, however, has been entirely denied by his colleague. Now in 1883 the Ministers of Public Works and of War want, all told, about £21,000,000, which must be found either through the amendment of old credits or by fresh borrowing; and the trouble of the French Government lies just in this, that it has exhausted its borrowing capacity so as to have nothing to fall back upon except the communal funds, treasuries, and savings banks funds on which it can lay hands. There is no evidence that for a year to come France will be able to digest a fresh issue of the bulk of these available funds has been laid hold of, and the main burden of the Ministry is in their incurrence. The savings banks deposits have increased by over £20,000,000 between 1st January and 31st October last; and if they continue to do so, all will go well for another year. Should they not do so, which is also possible, or should the people begin to withdraw their savings to some extent, the Government can hardly escape very grave financial complications. And at the best, trouble is only postponed. The Government is due in one form or other to various classes of the public at the present time £77,500,000; and most of the available part of this money it has appropriated to pay for the works it can only go on doing this a very little longer. As the war overweighs the longer it goes on the more overbearing the burden of fixed liabilities become. While it may, therefore, be possible to agree with M. Ribot that there is no immediate danger, it is impossible to accept his opinion that the public works can easily be proceeded with on the scale traced in the first sketch of the Budget published at the beginning of the year. It must be remembered that in addition to the deficit on the Extraordinary Budget for 1883, it is estimated that there will be one of more than £1,000,000 on the ordinary budget, which provides for an expenditure of £122,526,000, and has recently been revealing a tendency to stagnate, if not to decline in yield, which may well cause the real deficit to be larger. Supposing that the Government is able to meet its extraordinary outlay, either by further resort to the public funds in its hands or by the issue of Treasury bills, it will still have this large deficiency on the ordinary Budget to face in the course of next year, with the prospect, unless expenses are very much cut down for 1884 or taxes heavily increased, of having to encounter new deficits at the year's end. The prospect is not ruinous, but it is full of peril. Some nations can struggle on with yawning deficiencies for many years, and some do not; but the worst danger with which the Republic has been threatened since it was established, and smooth utterances do not lessen that danger.

ENGLAND AND EGYPT.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Wednesday night:—The reports which reach us from the Southern end of the Nile are of a most conflicting nature. On the one hand it is confidently stated that the Egyptian troops have been completely annihilated at Darfur, and that Obeid has surrendered. On the other side it is reported that the Mahdi has retired into the desert, and that his followers are demoralized and dispersing. The Government at any rate seems to consider that energetic action is still necessary, for regiments, as we have heard, are being sent to Khartoum. Five hundred more troops are expected to-morrow, and these will bring the total contingent already sent to this destination to nearly five thousand. As a proof of the good impression produced on the native population by the recent British intervention on behalf of Arabi, I may mention that public prayers have been offered in many mosques, not only in Cairo, but also in the provinces, for the Queen of England, as the Mirror of Justice. Such a fact is probably without precedent in the annals of the Mahometan world.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE ON EGYPT.—Sir Richard Temple, speaking at a Conservative meeting in the Midlands, said that, rightly or wrongly, we were masters of the situation in Egypt, but no one knew exactly in what way England was going to make use of the enormous advantages she had gained. Two things they might confidently expect to be attained:—at all events the Conservative party would courageously, we were masters of the situation in Egypt, but no one knew exactly in what way England was going to make use of the enormous advantages she had gained. Two things they might confidently expect to be attained:—at all events the Conservative party would courageously, we were masters of the situation in Egypt, but no one knew exactly in what way England was going to make use of the enormous advantages she had gained. 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The Proprietors and Staff of Galignani's Messenger tender their sincere and grateful thanks to the members of the English and French Press for the sympathy they have so spontaneously shown in connection with the death of Mr. William Gladstone.

Great Britain

LONDON, DECEMBER 14—15, 1882.

THE NEW CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Mr. Gladstone has resigned the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Childers has been appointed his successor, quitting the post of Secretary of State for War. This arrangement does not vacate Mr. Childers's seat, being simply an exchange of one office under the Crown for another. The election for Portofino will, therefore, not be called upon to exercise the suffrages. The transfer of offices is the condition precedent of the further Ministerial adjustments which we have previously indicated. In uniting in his own person the posts of First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer on the construction of his present Cabinet, as towards the conclusion of his former Government, it was doubtless Mr. Gladstone's intention to make financial reform a special feature of his Administration. The defeat of the Liberal party in the elections of 1874 frustrated this aim then; and the unfortunate enterprises of Lord Beaconsfield's Ministry, followed by the unhappy Egyptian complications, have interfered with its later execution. There may still be opportunity for carrying it into effect, but Mr. Gladstone no longer feels that superfluity of strength which would justify him in charging himself personally with the enterprise. The only justification for the Union of the two offices of First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer in one person thus ceases, and Mr. Gladstone has promptly severed their tenure. The arrangement involved some sacrifice, though for greater good, of the legitimate ambitions and of the fair political rewards of Mr. Gladstone's associates, and the Prime Minister has acted with judgment in not perpetuating it when the purpose for which it was instituted seems no longer likely to be realised.—Of Mr. Childers's fitness for the post on which he now enters there can be no question. If not dignissimus he is dignus. Probably the City, which knows them both very well, would have shown more signs of originality, an inventiveness, and variety of intellectual resources, than Mr. Childers has yet displayed. But Mr. Childers's health is understood to have made his relief from the laborious duties of Minister of War a necessity, and the ulterior arrangements connected with Lord Derby's entrance into the Cabinet required a shifting of offices within it rather than a further recruiting of Ministers from outside. Doubtless Lord Derby will not be the only new Cabinet Minister. Probably before Parliament meets again Sir Charles Dilke will enter the Cabinet; but the readjustment immediately in contemplation made either Mr. Childers's retirement to the Government or his nomination to the Ministry of Finance the most convenient arrangement. Mr. Goschen's views with respect to the County Franchise, conscientiously professed and maintained, still stand in the way of his entrance into an Administration to which he would give strength. It may be that his objection is not to household suffrage in the counties absolutely, but to household suffrage by itself and apart from a concomitant measure of redistribution. However this may be, Mr. Childers and not he becomes Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the appointment, if not absolutely the best, is yet, as we have said, practically the most convenient, and, apart from comparisons which are a little uncertain and invidious, is good in itself.—Daily News.

AN EPIDEMIC OF FIRES.

It is not surprising that the occurrence in rapid succession of several fires of the first magnitude should induce people to think that there is more than accident at the bottom of some of them. It is a curious fact, but we believe, perfectly well-verified, that fires are always most numerous in times of commercial depression. Supposing this to be so the exact relation of cause and effect is not very accurately ascertainable, though several more or less plausible explanations may be presented themselves. The origin of the fire at Hampton Court Palace is known, and was perfectly simple. The unfortunate woman who has lost her life seems to have upset a spirit lamp, and so set fire to the clothes of her bed. But we are still entirely in the dark regarding the causes of the fires in Wood-street and at the Alhambra Theatre; and so far as we learn, nothing has been discovered regarding the origin of Thursday's fire in Dublin. We do not under-estimate the difficulty of making a discovery of this sort. Fire is such a truly devouring element, that unless checked at an early period it seldom leaves much evidence of its cause behind. We allude, of course, to those cases in which an accident is not the obvious and unmistakable beginning of the disaster. With a majority of fires, however, their origin is wrapped in obscurity. Smoke is seen issuing from a window, and by the time an alarm is given and those competent to observe have arrived on the scene, the flames have generally reached a pitch which prohibits any examination whatever of the spot where the fire originated. For aught any one knows or is able to find out to the contrary the fire may have been the deliberate work of an incendiary. For it cannot be doubted that few crimes are more easy of commission than incendiarism, or more difficult to discover afterwards, given the requisite means and opportunity. And that both means and opportunity are readily obtainable by those who really seek them is pretty certain. Take the case of a manufacturer who, finding his trade falling off and his affairs getting involved, should begin to think how advantageous it would be to him if he could exchange his warehouse and unsaleable stock for the large sum for which they are insured. Who can doubt that such a case the manufacturer could if he chose set fire to his premises with only a remote chance of detection. Possibly, he would not do it with his own hand, but instruments willing and able to commit the crime would certainly be at his

service. We do not suggest that incendiarism of this sort is of all frequent occurrence. On the contrary, we should be sorry to believe that so heinous a crime ever occurs more than once or twice in a generation. But we wish to point out that it is by no means impossible of commission. Then, again, a fire may easily result from the malice of an enemy. An employee under sentence of dismissal would not have long to wait before finding an opportunity of setting his master's premises in a blaze, and in all probability all present in the crime would be swallowed up in the general destruction of the property. Together with this we should remember that there are many chances against the accidental origin of fires. Except in the case of inflammable air or spirit being upset at the same time that bedclothes or other combustible articles are ignited, it is not likely that a fire so caused would spread. If we consider how difficult it often is to light a fire in a stove, when all the conditions of rapid and complete combustion are present, it will be seen that circumstances are rather against than in favour of the chance of accidentally ignited curtains or bed-clothes communicating with the surrounding woodwork, and so setting fire to the whole house. Altogether, it must be admitted, we fear, that *prima facie* there is a good deal of evidence in favour of the theory that incendiarism is at the bottom of a great many more fires than is commonly believed. The remedy for such a state of things is not easy to find, but it ought to be found no one will deny. In 1880 there were two thousand one hundred and ninety-four calls to fires in London, one hundred and sixty-two of which proved to be serious. The total is an increase of one hundred and fifty-three on the previous year, and is two hundred and twenty-four more than the average of the last ten years. Making all deductions for the increase in the number of houses in the metropolis during the same period, and we still have a very alarming record of conflagrations. Something ought certainly to be done to diminish its proportions.—Morning Post.

THE "GLADSTONE CULT."

Already, we (St. James's Gazette) fancy, the Gladstone cult is going out. It has been forced a little too hotly of late; its preachers and its scribes have overdone their business, and thereby have insured an earlier reaction than might otherwise have happened. Besides, it is not in nature that the country can be long content with intellectual activities, however "progressive" they may be, which are destitute of judgment and false to principle. And so must the Prime Minister's activities be described by those who know the truth about them and dares to tell it. With the history of the last two or three years plainly before us, there is no hazard in saying that his claims to be called great are pretty much the same as those of the gentleman who walked a thousand miles in a thousand hours. His readiness, his endurance, his vast capacity for work, and his yet more astonishing capacity for orating at all times and seasons are truly wonderful in a man of his age—wonderful and fascinating. And it may have been remarked, perhaps, that nearly all the Jubilee panegyric has turned upon the athleticism of the Minister's intellect and his versatility. And why? Simply because nothing better can be said of it. But intellectual force, address, and hardihood do not equip a Minister, even though he can at the same time boast of the purest and best intentions. Though nervous energy is an admirable thing in itself, and there is no gift more fortunate for its possessor or more pleasing to others than the "gift of the gab," yet these are but contributory to statesmanship at their best, and are not of its essence. It is even possible for a man to abound in nervous energy, and yet to be mad; it is possible to have a most flowing and most winning tongue, and yet to be neither wise nor good. Be it observed, we do not say that Mr. Gladstone is mad, in the common understanding of the word, nor that he isn't good. But we do say that all the vigour and hardihood and flexibility of the one thing cannot compensate for the lack of the other. What we had to say of him at the beginning of the session he made more true before its close; and the nearer he approaches the end of his career, the more will it come into the light. What makes a statesman, what alone entitles any man to pretend to rule and guide an empire, is that combination of faculties which we usually describe as "judgment." Foresight, discretion, a fine common-sense exhibited in the just calculation of conditions and chances, — these make the true statesman. A Minister may have great gifts, but if he shows neither foresight nor discretion, if his anticipations are commonly falsified and his calculations generally wrong, then to talk of him as a statesman is to talk nonsense. And though Mr. Gladstone's admirers, and yet more his liveliest detractors, may exclaim against such an opinion in their shrillest tones, yet is it a matter of demonstration that there is scarcely a single point in his conduct and in his legislation during the whole period of office since Lord Beaconsfield's defeat that does not prove him the victim of delusion. One after the other they have been founded on calculations that have proved false and anticipations fore-doomed to disappointment. Even where affairs have gone well with him, as in the case of Egypt, they have yet taken a course which he did not foresee, and in direct contradiction of all that he purposed and expected. And this the country could not fail to see at the same time, and is finding out; while at the same time it has more and more reason to be shocked with his audacity in juggling with pledges and principles. They may say what they please to benefit us, but the days of his popularity are drawing to a close; and if he retired in 1874 he left his party in distress, were he to retire now he would leave his politics in confusion. This it is which makes the entrance of Lord Derby into the Government a matter of so much importance to the Liberal party. It gives them a new lease of hopeful expectancy; and this hope will be all the more lively after the address which his lordship delivered at Manchester yesterday. In that address he proclaimed himself a thoroughgoing "vert," even taking up the jargon of his new creed in a way which surprised his hearers. We shall allow ourselves to say that though the speech will give great delight and encouragement to the party of his adoption for a time, yet it will not be

long before he brings upon them and upon the country great embarrassments. No sooner does he open his mouth as a Liberal leader than he justifies all what we anticipated from him. What he had to say about Egypt, about France, about the various designs of the German Government is pregnant with mischief; and we shall be surprised if the lordship's views have not been translated into a policy. But that is far too large and far too serious a matter for us to enter upon to-day.

THE MALAGASY ENVOYS.

The cordial welcome which the Malagasy Envoys received at the Fishmongers' Hall on Thursday evening gave audible expression to the feeling with which their visit to this country is generally regarded. They came to England in the hope of being able to avert the grave and unprovoked danger which threatens the tranquillity of their beautiful island; and the Prime Minister, in proposing the toast of their health, was able to show that in the interests of civilisation, no less than on grounds of humanity, they are entitled to the public sympathy. Mr. Forde stated that, although about six years ago the Malagasy people had no written language and were in a condition of absolute barbarism, no fewer than a thousand schools now exist in the island, while the annual value of the foreign trade of the country is great. This is a sufficient answer to the statements of the Paris Press that the Hovas are hostile to improvement, and that in fact as a people they are but one degree removed from the savage state. The testimony of Admiral Gore Jones is emphatic as to the absurdity of this view; and if, as the Envoys stated, it is such a speech as the Chief Envoy made on Thursday night is well calculated to place the matter in a true light. He stated that by the help of the English, and also of the French, the Malagasy had abandoned their former barbarous and cruel customs, and having banished the foot of the ladder of civilisation their ambition was to climb that ladder in order to become the equals of more favoured nations. Such a spirit deserves every encouragement, and the Envoy was justified in saying that if the peaceful progress of the island is maintained, it will be a great credit to the Malagasy people. The men are still detained in custody. So long a time has passed since the murder occurred that the two or three persons who were the Dublin police have arrested as being implicated in the Phoenix Park assassination are really the guilty men. Neither on the other hand, ought we to be discouraged by the fact that the evidence of identification adduced at the private inquiry on Thursday has not satisfied the magistrates.—

THE DUBLIN ARRESTS.

Experience warns us not to entertain too confident a hope that the two men whom the Dublin police have arrested as being implicated in the Phoenix Park assassination are really the guilty men. Neither on the other hand, ought we to be discouraged by the fact that the evidence of identification adduced at the private inquiry on Thursday has not satisfied the magistrates.—The men are still detained in custody. So long a time has passed since the murder occurred that the two or three persons who were the Dublin police have arrested as being implicated in the Phoenix Park assassination are really the guilty men. Neither on the other hand, ought we to be discouraged by the fact that the evidence of identification adduced at the private inquiry on Thursday has not satisfied the magistrates.—

THE PHOENIX PARK MURDERS.

The Dublin correspondent of the Standard says:—Several of the persons who had been examined at the inquest on Lord Frederick Cavendish, and who saw the assassins driving from the park, were afforded an opportunity of seeing the prisoners (whose names are not being given) in the Phoenix Park murders we have already announced, and a view of recognising them. Mr. Curran, however, did not deem the identification sufficient, and refused to act on it. Meanwhile the prisoners are detained at the Exchange, and the inquest is being further witnesses called to the evidence of the police at the capture of the park murderers, and they are now confirmed in that view. Some of the informers knew very little and others a great deal; but the detectives were enabled to get a direct chain of information, and to catch out the impostors. For the last ten or twelve days Mr. Curran, Q.C., with Mr. Jenkinson, Chief of the Criminal Investigation Department, and Mr. Mallon, Superintendent of the Detective Division, have been engaged on a most important private inquiry into the Phoenix Park murders, and have been examining each other in an extraordinary fashion. They have during the week been subjected to rigorous examinations. Some individuals sent for by the police, and questioned as to their participation in the secret of the attack, became so alarmed at finding the authorities knew so much that they readily told more. A portion of the inquiry has been directed to an examination of the witnesses who saw Mr. Field stabbed, pursued the car, and were enabled to get a glimpse at the assassins. The inquiry at the Castle on Thursday did not terminate till past six o'clock. The British Medical Journal says:—New complications have arisen in this important case since our report last week. The fever was making favourable progress when, on Saturday, December 9, Mr. Fawcett had three attacks of spasmodic cough, accompanied with hemorrhage from the mouth. The last of these attacks, at seven p.m., was especially severe, and produced great distress and oppression of the breathing, but it happily yielded to the treatment which was immediately applied. Subsequently, on December 11 and 12, there were recurrences of the hemorrhage to a smaller amount. It is well known that such hemorrhages are not unfrequently typical of diphtheria. The medical attendants are satisfied that the blood flowed from the upper part of the air passages, and trickled into the lungs, thus producing the distressing difficulty of breathing which was observed in the attack of Saturday evening last. Since Saturday clots of blood and fibrinous casts of the smaller tubes, resulting from the previous hemorrhage, have been expectorated. On December 13 symptoms of rheumatism appeared in the arms; but at present the principal anxiety is the fear that fresh hemorrhage may occur and obstruct the air tubes. There is also some ground for uneasiness lest lung-mischief should be caused by the clots passed so far from the lungs. We are glad to learn, however, that so far the risks alluded to have not arisen to any serious extent; and there is reason to anticipate Mr. Fawcett's complete recovery from his serious illness.

THE FIRE AT HAMPTON COURT PALACE.

As we stated in a telegram yesterday a fire broke out on Thursday morning at Hampton Court Palace in the apartments occupied by Mrs. Crofton, on the third story, one of the front dwellings in Fountain-court. About half-past seven Mrs. Lucas, between 50 and 60 years of age, the cook, was getting out of bed, when, it is stated, she accidentally upset a spirit lamp, and thereby set fire to the bed clothing. In her fright the cook ran out of the room for assistance, and having secured the other inmates made her way back to her bedroom, in spite of their entreaties not to do so. It was seen that the apartment was completely enveloped in flames, and the dense smoke prevented the servants following her. In a few minutes the fire had spread to the drawing-room, and bursting through the windows cast a lurid glare over the precincts of the Palace, but the reflection was not visible at any distance owing to the dense fog which prevailed. The alarm by this time had been conveyed to all accessible quarters, and the fire-brigade, in connection with the main at the bottom of the Palace grounds was soon at work, the hydrants being rapidly attached. As promptly as possible the members of the brigade stationed at the Palace got the hydrants into action, and did excellent service in keeping the fire in check. A large body of men of the 4th Hussars, stationed at the barracks in close proximity to the scene of the fire, were hastily summoned, and were successful in removing a large quantity of property from the lower floors of the building. A few minutes later the steam engine from Kingston came up, and quickly followed by the Twickenham and Richmond. The supply of water was all that could be desired, and an immense quantity was soon poured on to the burning mass. Repeated attempts were made to enter the room, which the fire had not yet reached, but without success. After the fire had somewhat diminished a search was made, and the body of Mrs. Lucas was found lying near the door. The remains were at once removed. At half-past nine the fire was completely extinguished, but not before a large portion of the valuable furniture, tapestry, and furniture of Mrs. Crofton were completely destroyed, as well as some property belonging to Lady Grey, injured by water and removal from the basement. Fortunately, the historic relics and paintings so much admired by the public were not injured.

Hampton Court Palace and the parks surrounding it have, says the Evening Standard, been in exceeding favour with the people of the metropolis, as a holiday resort, ever since the year after the accession of the Queen to the throne, and the very first acts of her reign were to dedicate this Palace and its adjacent parks to the public for ever. At that period the chief attraction lay in the parks, Bushey with its unequalled avenue of chestnuts, and the park immediately surrounding the Palace, with its glorious avenues running down the hill, and its numerous lakes, flower gardens, terraces of stone, vineery (with the finest vine in England), and its maze, near the wilderness where strangers never failed to derive endless amusement in attempting to thread its devious ways. The Palace itself, as first an object of curious attention, and then an attraction, celebrated for its associations with Cardinal Wolsey and his famous receptions; with Henry VIII. and the death of Jane Seymour; and as the residence of the Queen, and the scene of many of the most important events of our history, the Palace has since the reign of the Georges, the First and the Second, to complete the procession of Monarchs who have made the Palace their home since some Monks first erected a manor-house on the site before the Desmond survey. The incidents attended by the coming and the going of so many crowned heads, and upon the occupation of the Palace through so many centuries, invested every portion of the building with the deepest interest to the student of history, the archaeologist, and the stranger from the most distant parts of the world. To the news of the fire within its precincts will excite the solicitude of thousands of people in all parts of the globe. There is little need to tell of its famous courts—three in number, of its quadrangles and fountains, of its cloisters and galleries, and of the numerous objects of interest which are well remembered by those who have only paid but one visit to it.

The magnificent suites of rooms and corridors, rich in their associations of Royal and noble occupants; and the halls and chambers, with their exquisitely painted ceilings, and windows stored with quaint armour and weapons of war, with here and there a bed-chamber filled with antique furniture, and hangings of gold and silk; the walls hung with the finest examples of Holbein, Raphael, Kneller, West, and the cartoons of William and Mary, are things which no educated people have not either seen or heard of.

The Rooms and Halls of the Palace were only gradually stored with the treasures they now contain; but these did not make up the new accommodation which the Palace affords, and a large number of suites of apartments were set apart by the Queen as residences for reduced ladies—the widows, sisters, and daughters of men of noble rank, or of those who had deserved well of the Monarchy. The ladies spent their declining years; and it is perhaps creditable that never before has such a dire disaster as this fire broken out in any chamber occupied by them.

Since the Palace and grounds have been thrown open to the public as many as 50,000 people have been known to visit them in one day; and the average per year is between 200,000 and 300,000.

The collection of pictures numbers about one thousand, and were hanging on the walls and galleries of the State apartments. These comprise the famous series of Court Beauties by Sir Peter Lely and Sir Godfrey Kneller; the cartoons by Raphael; and a splendid collection of specimens by the old masters. None of these have been injured, and the collection of old armour and old furniture also said to be uninjured, with the exception of some old State beds and their furniture.

THE HEALTH OF MR. FAWCETT.

Mr. Fawcett's condition was rather less satisfactory on Thursday evening. The new symptoms indicated in the annexed bulletin are, however, not of serious import, and at present afford no increased cause for anxiety. Until the fever has exhausted itself frequent fluctuations may be anticipated. So far the course of the disease has not been unfavourable, and the prospect continues to be very hopeful.

MR. GLADSTONE.

The Town Clerk of Newark has received the following letter from Mr. Gladstone:—
"10, Downing-street, Whitehall, Dec. 13.
"My dear Sir,—I thank you much for forwarding to me the address from the Town Council of the borough of Newark, which has reached me to-day, congratulating me on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of my return to Parliament. I am assured you set a special value on this congratulation from the place which chose me as its representative in 1832, and allowed me thus to form the first link of connection with political life. I heartily wish prosperity to the town of Newark.—I remain, faithfully yours, W. E. GLADSTONE."

The following letter was received on Thursday by Sir James Pleton, in reply to a private letter addressed to Mr. Gladstone in the hope of inducing him to accede to a request about to be made to him by Liberals:—
"Downing-street, Whitehall, Dec. 13.
"Sir, I am directed by Mr. Gladstone to thank you for your letter, and to assure you that he fully shares your feelings with regard to the important victory in Liverpool. He is sensible of the compliment which you propose to make to him at this time receiving requests for his attendance at political gatherings, which he is compelled, on personal and other grounds, to decline; and he regrets that he cannot more than extend his warmest wishes to the success of the cause which you will have your formal application as that which will form my reply. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, W. E. GLADSTONE."

THE LOUGH MASK MURDERS.

After the verdict of the jury had been given on Wednesday evening in the trial of Patrick Higgins for the Lough Mask murders, the accused appeared much agitated. Through the interpreter he said that he left it to God and the Virgin that he never lifted hand or foot on the man, and the court might do with him what they liked. His Lordship: "As the prisoner does not understand the English language, and as there are other prisoners to be tried on the same charge, I forbear at present from making any observations in passing sentence upon him. Concerning, as I do, entirely and completely the justice and necessity of the verdict, I did not create the time to state that, in my opinion, the prisoner is the least guilty of the prisoners concerned in this murder, and that the evidence has produced in my mind a firm belief that the design of the murder was not executed with him. Another observation I make because an opportunity might not arise for making it again. I understand that the rent on account of the non-payment of which this crime was committed has since been paid, but the only result of the crime, so far as the life of the prisoner is concerned, is that he is continually to hold out to him any hope in this world. The Judge then passed sentence of death in the usual form, the execution to take place on January 15th.—When the interpreter had pronounced the sentence, the prisoner outstretched his hand and, going on his knees, said in Irish, "Welcome be the will of God." One of the jurors said that the jury did not wish to express any opinion as regards the amount of guilt of the present prisoner, as there were two other prisoners to be tried, in passing sentence, having mentioned that Patrick Higgins was the least guilty, they fully endorsed that opinion. Judge O'Brien: I shall take care to present to the authorities the expression of your opinion. The prisoner was then removed, and the court adjourned.

Commenting on the conviction of Patrick Higgins for the Lough Mask murders, the Freeman's Journal says:—"We may note that, like Mr. Justice Barry in sentencing the five men who had pleaded guilty to the Manchester massacre, and who have been since reprieved, Judge O'Brien did not assume the black cap in passing sentence upon Patrick Higgins. The incident is said not to be without significance. The Dublin Express says:—"Incontrovertible evidence has shown that the objects of the murder were the Land League men, and that they were accused of murder, and, being in gaol, had no need of relief. It is no longer a secret why the accounts were not audited, and why the disposition of the funds is considered a mystery. The conviction of Higgins is more than a murderer removed beyond the power of doing harm. It is a crushing exposure of the Land League." The Irish Times says:—"The crime itself of the murder of the Huddys was unrelieved in its horror by any mitigation, method of disposing of the bodies all show a confidence in impunity that startles still when recalled."

THE WEATHER.—On Thursday the weather in the metropolis was cold, raw, and damp, with an overcast sky, and in the forenoon a good deal of white fog in the streets. The temperature, generally speaking, was lower than that of Wednesday, the shade temperature on the latter being 45 deg., and on Thursday 40 deg. The wet bulb on Wednesday registered 43 deg., and yesterday marked 40 deg. The ice on all the parks is much cut up, sloppy, and rapidly dissolving. A thaw set in at Cambridge Thursday morning, and continued all day, notwithstanding which a skating rink was placed at the Fen, for which the champion and the principal skaters entered.—Thursday afternoon William Collins (a), platers' marker, Barrow-in-Furness, went with his two brothers to the Ormskirk reservoir. He put on his skates, and when about to place them on the reservoir was seen to sink through the ice. A ladder and ropes were obtained, but owing to the dangerous state of the ice the body was not recovered. Snow again fell on Thursday throughout North Wales, and now lies at an average depth of three or four inches. Although a thaw prevailed on Thursday night there was every appearance of further heavy downfalls.—A Dundee correspondent writes:—"The severity of the storm in the east of Scotland suffers no abatement. Very little snow has fallen since Wednesday afternoon, and the wind has fortunately continued light. The frost is exceptionally keen, and this (Thursday) morning the reading of the thermometer ranged from 14 to 23 degs. The air is piercingly cold. Several ice accidents have occurred, happily none of them fatal. The dead body of a policeman named John Drummond, of the Berwickshire police, was found near Bessenden, some miles from Gordon, where he was stationed. It is supposed that, being overtaken by fatigue on going his rounds amid the snow, he fell and was killed. Drummond, who had been only a few weeks in the service, was 27 years old.

THE SALVATION ARMY AT EXETER.—There were renewed disturbances in connection with the Salvation Army, processions at Exeter on Sunday, and the magistrates were on Tuesday occupied some hours in hearing two cases which arose out of the rioting. On Friday and Saturday cards were issued inviting the members of the "Skeletone Army" to assemble and prevent the processions of the Salvation Army, and the latter, anticipating a disturbance in consequence, met on Sunday at a place different to that at which it is their custom to assemble to form a procession. They then proceeded through the streets, headed by a band and followed by a great body of men, who huzzaed them as they went. The "Temple" had jumped upon him. In the struggle which followed both fell to the ground, and were then arrested. The Skeletone avowed that he was first struck by the other man with the cymbals he was carrying. After hearing a number of witnesses the bench fined the Salvationist 2s. 6d. and costs, and the Skeletone 10s. and costs.

PARIS, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1882.

DR. SIEMENS ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION. — The annual meeting for the year 1892, prizes and certificates in connexion with the Institute for the Advancement of Technical Education was held on Thursday night in the hall of the Goldsmiths' Company, Foster-lane, after the reading of the prizes, Dr. Siemens said that Sir Frederick Abel had prevailed upon him to present the prizes on this occasion, and had urged that he was the person to do so. The distinction made between the prizes for the best and the most original had been maintained, and the addition of some scientific knowledge and proficiency in applied science, was worth the attention of all students. It was not sufficient after-life to be efficient in a craft or calling, but the worker must also master the entirely scientific principles which underlay that calling; he might, in consequence of some invention changing the *modus operandi* in an occupation, be left high and dry as to the own knowledge of fundamental principles he could adapt himself to changed circumstances. The Institute had called into existence a number of educational establishments throughout the country. Some of them were receiving pecuniary aid, but all had received very powerful aid, and they were very honour gained by the teachers of such schools and candidates. With regard to the school in Finner-street, he might say, having recently visited it, that the lecture-rooms and the laboratory were the best he had seen, and chemistry were the best he had seen, and he contrasted them with those in which he had himself received scientific instruction. He looked with particular interest at the evening classes, in which there would be a three-year's course, which there was a hope that these would be largely useful to apprentices. He remarked upon a deficiency he had noticed in the Finsbury Technical School, and he suggested a provision for the study of the history, artistic and mechanical. He hoped that art and literature would not be neglected in this scheme of education. Having next spoken of the political and social progress excited in the country by the doings of the great Exhibition, he reminded him somewhat of the ancient trade guild. The trade guilds of this country were powerful bodies in former days, but they had now risen to be national institutions. The political and social progress characterised those last four or five centuries had, perhaps, prevented them from taking that character. In concluding, Dr. Siemens said he hoped that through the dissemination of pure and practical science, the human spirit would take possession of the artisan, and that he would work with the object of attaining higher results and higher ends instead of discussing with his employer questions of hours and wages. A cordial vote of thanks was passed by the Society.

LONDON, DECEMBER 16-17, 1882.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

The *Statist* cannot make out why anyone should have indulged in paroxysms of exultation because Lord Derby is joining the Cabinet. The Cabinet must be in a very low state if Lord Derby can either make or mar its prospects. One great advantage of his accession is, we observe, that Lord Salisbury will no longer be able to say that the Liberal policy is socialistic and revolutionary. It is said, and said again, with a delighted chuckle, 'that even the audacity of the Conservative leader will shrink from accusing men whom Lord Derby patronises of entertaining designs against property. No! no more childish or more undignified could well be imagined. Is it really of such enormous importance to stop Lord Salisbury's epithet? Is the Liberal Party so feeble that it matters a great deal what Lord Salisbury says about its political position? And any sane person who thinks that Lord Derby's accession to the Cabinet will be held by the Conservative Leader or by the country to be an affair of such fundamental importance! You might as well put a table-spoonful of water into a hoghead of brandy, and expect Sir Willford Lawson to pass the mixture as a teetotal beverage. The Liberal Party, as we understand the matter, does not join Lord Derby, but simply absorbs him. He dilutes it imperceptibly, but that is all. To be quite frank, we think the party, and especially the Cabinet, a very great deal better without him. The inflated talk about his influence in the country is absolutely silly. He was very useful to the Conservatives in one way, because he has always good columns of two or three attitudes not easily distinguishable from the commonplaces of inert and stupid Liberalism—for there is a Liberal, as well as a Conservative, stupidity. But, when he changes sides, that particular virtue was gone. He has no longer a particle of influence with Conservatives; and where is his influence with Liberals to come from? It is only necessary to read his speech of the other day to see that he is a very imperfect kind of Liberal after all. He is totally deficient in the faith, the hope, the buoyancy, that a man needs to improve the world. His speeches take all light and colour out of life, and afflict the reader with something of his own intellectual palsy. He is simply a drag, not upon this or that policy, but upon action. He can speak a Blue-book about a good many subjects, but he cannot initiate a good many of them. He is a good posing, a good bearing relation to statesmanship that Webster's dictionary does to a great speech by Mr. Gladstone. We always thought him a poor Conservative, we think him a much poorer Liberal. Any confidence he may win for the Cabinet from the timid and the dull will be dearly paid for by his cold obstruction to the schemes of the active and energetic men with whom is the future.

LORD DERBY AS A LIBERAL.

In the opinion of the *Spectator*, Lord Derby's accession to the Liberal party means something of this kind—that, in accepting his co-operation, Mr. Gladstone's Government will announce that it has passed through its stage of enterprise and daring, and has settled down to plodding Liberalism. "From this time forth, its most weighty mouthpiece—as the higher and middle classes of the nation, though not the nation itself, will regard Lord Derby—will steadily deprecate anything like a sensational view of the doings of the Government, and will always find the safest way of persuading the English people that what is done, is done because it is the only thing really prac-

THE PACIFIC FORCE IN FRANCE.

The postponement of the estimate for the Tonquin expedition by the French Ministry probably foreshadows its abandonment. According to the story told by the French paper *l'Estimateur*, M. Duclercq had decided to ask for a vote of credit for eleven million francs to complete the conquest which M. Rivière has begun in the province of Tonquin. The final discussion in the Cabinet on the subject took place almost simultaneously with the arrival of a telegram that 10,000 Chinese troops had entered Tonquin, and were prepared to make common cause with the Tonquinese against the foreign invader. The French Ministers were, therefore, confronted with the probability of a war with the Chinese Empire if they persisted in their forward policy on the Red River. The Cabinet was divided. The Minister of Marine and one of his colleagues, it is said, were urgent for action at any cost. The others were in favour of a more cautious attitude, which was terminated—so the story goes—by the emphatic decision of President Grévy against the vote. Thereupon M. Duclercq is said to have torn up the request for a credit, and the expedition is said to be practically abandoned. Without putting too much faith in any circumstantial accounts of proceedings in Cabinets, there seems to be little doubt that the French Government are on the point of recoiling from the enterprise to which they seemed to be committed in the further East. What has taken place in the Cabinet about Tonquin offers a close parallel to that which took place in the Chamber about Egypt. The career of the Forward school has received a severe blow at a moment when it felt itself most secure, and the pacific spirit of the French democracy has asserted its authority over the policy of

France. This is very satisfactory. In the case of Egypt a Cabinet had to be

sacrificed before the rulers of France were able to appreciate the determination of the nation to remain at peace. In the case of Tonquin, the check was applied in the Cabinet itself. Slowly the truth is spreading in official quarters that the masses of the French democracy are not prepared to follow the nation into a fighting mood. They have had enough of intervention in Tunis, and are in no humour to countenance another M. Roustan in Tonquin. It is not to be wondered at that this change in the views of the French electors has not yet made itself felt in the remoter regions of Asia and Africa, where French commandants and French explorers are seeking to extend the influence, the authority, and the dominions of France. It was not till July that the altered temper of the democracy made itself felt in the Chamber. It is only since then that the Chamber has been able to see the Chamber. In time it may cool the ardour of the Frenchmen who, standing as sentinels on the outposts of the empire, spend their lives in dreaming of a millennium in which all mankind shall repose under the tricolour. But Englishmen of all people can least wonder that the change of mood at the centre has not yet made itself felt at the extremities. It is nearly three years since the English people decisively repudiated a policy of aggression, but how few of our representatives abroad appreciate the far-reaching revolution of which last general election was the signal. It is a source of sincere satisfaction to all who, with Mr. Gladstone, regard the Anglo-French alliance as one of the most valuable securities for the progress of civilisation, that the same repugnance to foreign adventure which overthrew Lord Beaconsfield should be so powerful in the midst of the French democracy. It is upon the ascendancy of that spirit on both sides of the Channel that we have to depend for the maintenance of the good understanding between England and France. It is a source of regret that it should never be forgotten in *discussions* of such questions as that of Madagascar. It is quite natural that the French of Nossi Bé and Réunion and the consuls and commandants in those parts should fret themselves about Madagascar, and it is inevitable that with a strong pressure from colonial and consular advocates of aggression the French Government should go as far as it safely can in the Forward direc-

tion. It is all the more likely to do this because it is exposed to the same approaches of those who condemn its withdrawal from Egypt. Lord Beaconsfield made the Afghan War all the more readily because he had never fought his three campaigns against Russia, and M. Duclercq would no doubt have no objection to imitate the English example and "run into something cheap." So long as it is cheap, and entails no fresh taxation and no mobilization, the electors will leave the Government free to do as it pleases. But the moment it has to ask for votes of credit or to face a formidable resistance, the pacific instinct of the French democracy asserts itself, and the policy of adventure is overruled. The French press and Rawlinsons are the moment too much for an opponent. The moment they try to go beyond the limits of what is tolerable they are very quickly pulled up. As it was in Egypt, as it is in Tonquin, so in all probability it will be in Madagascar, provided only that no indiscreet language on our part rouses French *amour propre*, and enlists the wounded vanity or self-respect of the nation on the side of aggression. The inherent difficulties of the expedition against the Hovas are quite great enough to lead the French democracy to put a veto upon the schemes of conquest which are indulged in at Nossi Bé. But that veto may not be forthcoming if we ruffle French susceptibilities by protesting against an expedition which everybody knows we have not the least intention of making. It is necessary, under these circumstances that the English Embassy should well to consider whether they would not be doing more service to their country if, instead of fomenting a flattering but mischievous agitation in England, they were to devote all their energies to placing Madagascar in a proper state of defence. It is in the country of the Sakalavas, and not in the Fishmongers' Hall, that the French people can be effectively awakened to the necessity of leaving Madagascar alone.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE TRIUMPH OF THE RITUALISTS.

The Saturday Review is exultant over the issue of the Mackonochie case. It thinks "there was an ingredient of concentrated bitterness to make the cup of humiliation for the Church Association trebly nauseous. The arch-magician whose spells wrought the marvel was that very Metropolitan with whose abused name the persecution company had so long been trafficking, and his abettor was that Bishop of London whom they had taught themselves to consider as their facile tool. There is one only possible meaning which can be attached to this phenomenon—namely, that the cause of Anglican ceremonial has won the day in its righteous contest, not for supremacy, but for impartiality and generous toleration."

The Record says:—"The Protestant purity of our Church is of so little account with our rulers, that they have been obliged to the sake of overcoming the complications of a protracted litigation. Without a word, apparently without a thought, the thing is done, and the toleration of the Mass in the Church of England has become a fact. If Evangelical Churchmen are alive to its untoward significance, and to the true character of the compromise, they will repudiate with resolute earnestness the false step which has been taken. If anything is to be done it must be done promptly and it must be done vigorously. Yet it is likely enough that weariness of a long conflict will, in spite of remonstrance, lead the majority to acquiesce in what perhaps they do not much regret. It is true that if this pass and so, we may slide tranquilly and unconsciously into a totally new position, where to retrace our steps will be impossible.

The *Tablet* says :—It is with interest that we learn that the last efforts of the late Arch-

bishop Tait were directed towards bringing back at least an outward peace to the Church over which he had ruled so long. The most prominent failure of his life had been the part he had taken in bringing the Public Worship Regulation Act, and we find him in his death-bed striving to undo some part at least of the mischief. Half a generation of men has passed away since ecclesiastical proceedings were commenced against Mr. Mackonochie, and their end is now as far off as ever. There is not the least reason to suppose that there will be the slightest change in ceremonial, either in the vestments or in the ritual, with a full knowledge of this before him, the Archbishop should have counselled the exchange in an eloquent commentary upon the policy of persecution.

THE ALLIANCE OF GERMANY

AND AUSTRIA.

Telegraphing on Friday night the *Standard* correspondent at Berlin says:—

I am able to send the following details of the new Austro-German Alliance. As first projected, it was to be for five years, but was actually concluded for ten years, and will continue in existence until notice is given a year in advance by one side or the other. The Treaty excludes the admission of any third power, and contains no special conditions defining mutual assistance in special cases. One of these refers to the Austro-German Customs and Commercial relations. Another lays down rules for the common action of the two Empires in International questions. The most important part, however, is that describing the duties of the two Empires. This is essentially defensive, aiming at nothing more than the maintenance of the present possessions of the two Empires, namely, of Germany in Alsace-Lorraine, and of Austria in Tyrol and Adria. Austria's position in the Balkan Peninsula is completely excluded, and including military offensive operations in certain eventualities. Each of the Allied Powers is to consider the situation of the other as if it were its own. Hence if it be threatened from any side, if, for example, Russia were to assume an attitude of challenge, by concentration of troops on the frontier, the two Empires would be bound to proceed to reduce the two Allied Empires to first send a common protest, and afterwards to proceed to military measures. Further it is certain that the present increase of the Army in Austria and the strengthening of her fortifications are completely justified, and which distinctly specifies the military obligations and duties of the two Empires. Finally, I am able to add that the prolongation of the Treaty is considered as a matter of course, just as much as was the German Zollverein in its time. It is, at least, the intention of Germany to continue the alliance as long as possible, and make it the basis of her European policy, and the same view is held by Austria.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

The further complication of rheumatism, with attacks of diphtheria and typhoid fever, from which Mr. Fawcett is suffering, has added to the anxieties of the right hon. gentleman's friends; but the prevention of further hemorrhage leads to the hope that he may still be fully restored to health. The following bulletin was issued on Saturday morning:—'Mr. Fawcett has passed a fairly good night. Rheumatism is still present, but in other respects he holds his ground. The following bulletin was issued at 7 p.m. on Friday night:—'Mr. Fawcett has passed a tolerably comfortable day. The rheumatic affection is subsiding, and the general condition is upon the whole satisfactory.'

THE MURDERS IN PHENIX PARK

The two men, Brady and O'Hanlon, arrested upon direct secret accusation of being concerned in the Phoenix Park murders, were again before the magistrates at the private inquiry on Friday, and they are still detained, though no formal charge has been made against them. The persons who were in the park when the murders were perpetrated, and who saw the assassins getting away on the car, have seen the two men, but they totally failed to identify them. One witness declared that to the best of his belief one of the accused was very like a person he had seen on the car, but he would not undertake to swear it.

Two persons believed to have connections with recent murders, or attempted murders, are generally spoken of as having turned informers, and revealed the plans of the conspiracy as far as they know them. The inquiry is of an official character, and is being conducted by the state presides; Mr. Jenkinson, chief of the Investigation Department is present; and the officers of the detective force, who have been specially charged with the work of unveiling the secret organization, supply the material for the examination. The witnesses are limited in number, and the examination is conducted by one by one and examined by the state presides that the police are so well acquainted with their habits, and at Friday's examination one witness was so overcome by the knowledge of the police that he, instead of leaving the room, after the examination, returned, and that several persons who were taken into custody as suspects "on suspicion of being concerned in the Dublin murders. In the course of Friday's inquiry two publicans in Dublin and a man from Kingstown were sent for and interrogated. The witnesses who witnessed the attack on Mr. Field were examined, and the little girl who stated that she thought she could identify the man who used the sword was further tested. The police have a suspicion that they know the man who was the trigger man on the occasion of the Park murder, and they believed it was the jarvey who drove the car by which the fellows who stabbed Mr. Field escaped. The detectives continue to be of opinion that they had two of the prisoners connected with the Park murder, who were the assassins, some months ago, in Kilmannah Gault, under the Protection Act.

The Royal Mail steamer *Nile*, from the West Indies, reached Plymouth on Friday morning. The arrival of the steamer had been anticipated since Wednesday afternoon, when it was first intimated according to her schedule that she would be aboard. It was from the fact that she had been aboard that Westgate, alias O'Brien, who some time since, in Venezuela, confessed to having participated in the Phoenix-park murders. The lengthened passage of the *Nile* was due to the fact that she had been delayed by a bad Sunday night, Monday, and Tuesday morning. The sea broke on deck and carried away all boats on the port side, smashed the aft steering wheel, swept off the quarter-deck compasses, and drove in the skylight. The two lifeboats were blown overboard, and the engine-room were partially extinguished. The passengers were in great alarm, and gave up all for lost. Westgate was regarded by the passengers as a harmless imbecile. Inspector Morrow, who he knew him intimately for the past year, was not at all deceived. Westgate was a man of fearful temper, though he has never been aware of anything against him. Whenever Inspector Mo'row left it side of the prisoner, the passengers frequently expressed their alleged association with the Phoenix-park murders. He was, however, willingly enough conversed on that subject, although he had the utmost dread of Inspector Morrow. Westgate said he was one of the men employed in the assassination, that he was the first to start the shooting, and he claimed that he did more than any other in the use of the knife.

MORE FIRES AND LOSS OF LIFE.

A fire broke out in the match manufactory in Belfast on Friday, to which four workers fell victims. Owing to the inflammable nature of the material the fire rapidly spread until the whole of the building was in flames. There were eighteen persons in the drying department, of whom all made their escape with the exception of two young girls, who, owing to the dense volume of smoke, were unable to reach the doorway. A man named Johnston, father of one of the girls, and who is also employed in the factory, made a rush through the flames to reach the poor girls, but in his attempt he lost his face and hands, burned

Early on Friday afternoon a fire broke out at the back of the third floor of No. 27, Chesapeake, which was not subdued until the remainder of the rooms above it were completely burned out. The house in question is well known as having on the basement floor the famous "four room saloon," is tenanted on the floors above by Messrs. Starts and Co., commission agents and silk manufacturers, on the first floor; Mr. Edmund Spall, merchant, on the second floor; Mr. J. C. Giles, mantle manufacturer, on the third floor; and Messrs. Spill and Co., flour merchants, having their City office on the back room on the fourth floor, the front of which is unoccupied; while the fifth floor is the residence of the housekeeper. The alarm of fire was given at ten minutes to one, when a gentleman in the employ of the fire department, who was seen rushing through the flooring and wainscoting by the fireplace, and he had only time to make his escape with the books. Without delay the fire brigade was summoned, and almost directly the men on duty at the Post Office brought round their fire escape and hose cart, the hose being directly attached to one of the windows on the second floor. Immediately afterwards the manual engine from Watling-street arrived on the scene, and they at once got to work with a hose from another hydrant, both the pipes being carried up the stairway. Owing to the large amount of woodwork in the upper part of the building, the staircases and the roof being of wood, the flames in various places being screened off by deal fittings, the flames quickly ascended, but after half an hour's struggle the firemen were able to subdue them. As before stated, all the rooms above where the fire commenced were quite burned out, the charred beams and rafters being seen through the windows. The offices where, though in no case did the floorings give way. The flames swept all round the housekeeper's rooms at the top, but the supply of water was sufficient to prevent them extending; and although the roof caught, it was promptly put out. Some of the water came through the ceiling of the restaurant on the ground floor, but was not sufficient to prevent the business being carried on, even while the fire was burning above. All the parties are insured.

DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF LLANDAFF.

The Bishop of Llandaff died at seven o'clock on Saturday morning, after a comparatively short illness. He passed peacefully away. The deceased Bishop, Alfred Olivant, was born at Manchester in 1798, and was consequently the oldest prelate on the bench. He was educated at St. Paul's School, London, and Trinity College, Cambridge, of which he became a Fellow. In 1820 he was elected to a Fellowship in Trinity scholar, and the next year, he graduated as Sixth Wrangler and Senior Chancery's Medallist. In 1822 he was elected Tyrrwhit's Hebrew scholar, and in that and the following years, he gained the Middle Bachelors and the Bachelor of Divinity degrees at Trinity College. He took his M.A. in 1824, and B.D. and D.D. in 1836. He was Vice-Principal of St. David's College, Lampeter, from 1827 to 1843, when he was elected Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge. In 1848 he was consecrated Bishop of Llandaff, and transferred to Dr. Creplestone. The episcopal jurisdiction of the See extends over the counties of Monmouth and Glamorgan, and the income is £4,200.

MR. FORSTER IN SCOTLAND

[illegible]

The Times says:—While agreeing with Lord Derby in his views of Irish policy, Mr. Forster uttered a strong protest against his observations upon the Egyptian question. According to Lord Derby, we must get out of Egypt, if possible, as soon as the Khedive can send *h* himself. The saving clause in the speech, however, that it is impossible to overlook the general bearing of Lord Derby's remarks. People who are in too great a hurry to get away from Egypt are likely to be contented with a standing of an extremely precarious kind. The Khedive would not be able to resist the temptation to a top dose while the impetus given by the master hand exhausts itself; he must be in a position of permanent security, and must be able to give guarantees "that he can not only retain his power but can be trusted to use it for the benefit of his country." It is folly to abandon the advantages we have gained until it is beyond all reasonable doubt that adequate and permanent security has been attained. No one desires our troops to remain in Egypt a day longer than is necessary, and the Government will be deeply purchased by the necessity of doing the work over again from the beginning.

The Standard says:—Mr. Forster congratulated the Government upon the possible accession of Lord Derby, but he made it tolerably clear that the same Cabinet which held Lord Derby could scarcely hold him self. On the other hand, the possibility of such a change of ship it would seem that the two men stand at opposite poles. Lord Derby contends that we are bound, if not to contract our Imperial responsibilities, yet to do nothing which can extend them. Mr. Forster, on the other hand, maintains that we have no right to go beyond certain limits, a law of our existence as an Imperial Power. In proportion as we advance our authority we advance our responsibilities, and Mr. Forster urges we are in honour bound not to ignore the responsibilities which we have already contracted; to retrench the former. This, of course, is a mere truism, but it has really some significance just now, and if anything could emphasize its meaning it would be that Mr. Forster's opinion is expressed by his dissent from Lord Derby's opinion on such an issue. Lord Derby advocates the withdrawal from Egypt at the earliest opportunity, and upon the slightest excuse; Mr. Forster points out that it is simply our presence in Egypt which offers any excuse for delay, and that it is impossible so long to hang this consideration may compel us to remain.

THE MAAMTRASNA EXECUTIONS.

Myles Joyce, Patrick Joyce, and Patrick Casey, who had been convicted of having taken part in the murder of the Joyce family at Maamtrasna, were hanged in Galway gaol on Friday as we stated by telegram. The convicts were in a gloomy mood, and during the night lay huddled together in the cells for the purpose of pinioning the arms of the convicts. To this operation Patrick Joyce and Patrick Casey submitted quietly; but Myles Joyce protested with great vehemence and was severely flogged for refusing to suffer, and resisted Marwood slightly. At a quarter past eight o'clock Myles Joyce emerged from the prison, supported by two warders, and uttering a number of exclamations and protests of his innocence. The crowd howled, but Patrick Casey, again by Patrick Joyce, both of whom were also supported. As each of the convicts emerged from the prison, he seemed, from a hurried glance around, to expect to recognize some of the spectators, and to be disappointed. He proceeded, the service of the Roman Catholic Church for the dying was repeated by Father Graven, but only one of the prisoners, Patrick Joyce, made a response. With the exception of Myles Joyce, who remained on the steps of the scaffold without assistance, and when they had been placed under the ropes which were dangling from the cross-beam Myles Joyce, turning to the spectators, made a number of exclamations in Irish and English, and then turned away. When Marwood approached to add therope on his neck he resisted slightly. Father Graven approached and spoke to him, but he nevertheless continued to speak loudly while the other two convicts submitted quietly. One of the other two men, who submitted quietly, and after the white cap had been drawn over his face he moved his head, so that Marwood had again to arrange the noose. Even then he continued to speak, exclaiming, "I am going before my God. I neither raised hand nor foot against the people. I had neither hand, eat, nor part in the murders." When the bolt was drawn and the man was suspended, he uttered a quiver of the ropes by which Patrick Joyce and Patrick Casey were suspended; but there was apparently severe struggling on the part of Myles Joyce, for the rope oscillated violently,

and Marwood could be seen for several minutes afterwards pushing down the body and stepping down and up, and endeavouring to do something—it could not be seen what—with the noose. Marwood afterwards explained that Myles Joyce had by some means or other got his arm or his hand under the rope, and that he had been trying to push down the door. Doubtless, positive, was instantaneous, and nothing could have been wrong with the rope, as he had used it at executions before. Besides, he gave the man a drop of equal length, 9ft. The scaffold was a wooden one, and the workmen from Dublin, all the local tradesmen having refused to do the work. The prison was surrounded by sentries all night, and a body of policemen were on duty outside this hour, when they were sent down to arise, but scarcely a dozen persons assembled at the gate, even after the black flag had been run up to show that the sentence of the law had been carried out. The bodies hung from the gallows for some time, but an inquest was held, in which the usual verdict was returned.

REPORTED FENIAN THREAT TO BURN DOWN

A correspondent writes to the *Globe*:—On Friday evening a letter was received at the Home Office, signed "Rory of the Hills," in which the writer stated that in consequence of a decision which had been come to by "the committee for burning public buildings," arrangements had been made for setting fire to one or more of the public buildings of London, failing which other large buildings, such as a hospital or group of warehouses, would be marked out for destruction. The burning, it was stated, would take place between the nights of the 15th and 21st of December, and it was hinted that it was to be an act of retaliation on the Government for the deaths of Joyce and Casey for the Maamtrasna affair. The letter was at first regarded as a hoax, but from other information which reached the authorities, it was deemed advisable last night to double the police guard at the whole of the Government and other public buildings at the West-end and in the City. Extra troops were issued to the police throughout the metropolis, and the authorities were especially vigilant in looking after all large buildings. It may be remembered that an anonymous letter was sent to the authorities in 1867, just before the attempt on the House of Detention, warning them of what was to take place, whilst another letter of a similar nature was sent to the authorities in 1868, just before the fires which took place at the Albert Dock, thus enabling steps to be taken to prevent what otherwise would doubtless have been a very terrible destruction of property.

DR. SIEMENS ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION. —

The annual meeting for the distribution of prizes and certificates in connexion with the Institute for the Advancement of Technicians took place on the 10th inst. at the grand hall of the Goldsmiths' Company, Foster Lane. After the presentation of the prizes, Dr. Siemens said that Sir Frederick Bramwell had prevailed upon him to present the prizes of this year, and he had agreed to do so, if the persons to do so. The distinction between ordinary and honour prizes, marking the addition of some scientific knowledge, proficiency in applied science, was worth the attention of all students. It was not sufficient for their life to be a life of rote learning and calling. Unless the workman also mastered entirely the scientific principles underlying that calling, he might, in consequence of some invention changing the *modus operandi* of his calling, be rendered useless. Dr. Siemens, whereas with a knowledge of fundamental principles he could adapt himself to changing circumstances. The Institute had called into existence a number of educational establishments in this powerful country. Some of them had received monetary aid, all had not. It was very powerful aid in an indirect way by the honour gained by the teachers of successful candidates. With regard to the school in Foster-street, he might say, having recently visited it, that he had seen the most perfect laboratory for physical science and chemistry were the most perfect he had seen, and he contrasted them with those in which he had himself received scientific instruction. He had seen the most perfect rest to the evening classes, in which there would be a three-years' course, and he expressed a hope that these would be largely useful to apprentices. He remarked upon the fact that he had noticed in the Laboratory-School the indifferent attitude of the provision for the study of drawing, both artistic and mechanical. He hoped that art and literature would not be neglected in the scheme of education. Having next spoken of the Institute, he said that he was surprised by the doings of the Institute, he said it reminded him somewhat of the ancient trade guild. The trade guilds of this country were powerful bodies in former days, but they had been superseded by the State. The political turmoil which characterised the last four or five centuries had, perhaps, prevented them from taking that character. In concluding, Dr. Siemens said he hoped that the Institute would be a centre of pure and practical science a higher spirit of education, a session of the artisan, and that he would work with the object of attaining higher results and higher ends instead of discussing the employment questions of hours and wages. He then said that he was anxious to Dr. Siemens for presiding.

LORD STAMFORD.—The relapse sustained by the Earl of Stamford has quite prostrated him, and much anxiety is felt as to the result. A third local medical man has now been called in, and the three remained at Bradgate all Friday night. The following bulletin was issued on Saturday morning:—"The Earl of Stamford has had some hours' sleep during the night, and although there is great promise that the symptoms this morning are not so unfavorable." (Signed, W. H. Marriott, M.D., John Wright, Geo. Pearce, M.D.)

FUNERAL OF SIR THOMAS WATSON.—The remains of Sir Thomas Watson were buried in the cemetery attached to the Reigate parish church, on Saturday afternoon, at 2.30. A large number of professional and private friends. The service was read by the Vicar of Reigate (the Rev. Newman Harrison), who was assisted by the Rev. E. Slafar Browne, sub-dean of Salisbury, and brother-in-law of the deceased.

COUNCIL AT WINDSOR.—*The Cabinet Changes.*—On Saturday afternoon her Majesty held Council at Windsor Castle, the Ministers assembling at Paddington at noon, and travelling by Special Great Western train to Windsor, where they arrived shortly before one o'clock. Among those proceeding were Mr. Gladstone, Earl Derby, the Marquis of Hartington, and Mr. Childers. Mr. Peel was Clerk of the Council.

The Press Association states that the changes in the Cabinet are as follow:—Mr. Childers becomes Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Hartington succeeding him at the War Office, the Earl of Kimberley takes the Secretaryship for India, and Earl Derby becomes Secretary for the Colonies. These appointments were at mally ratified by the Queen in Council for Windsor on Saturday.

GUARDING MARWOOD.—On Saturday morning Marwood, the executioner, arrived in Dublin from Galway on his way to England. Owing to the indignation excited by the bungles at the execution of the Maamtrasna murderers on Friday, fears were entertained that the hangman would be attacked in Dublin, and a strong body of police guarded the Westland row station. A number of the new auxiliary police in plain clothes were also present, and saw him on board the steamer.

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Great Britain.
LONDON, DECEMBER 18—19, 1882.

THE WARLIKE PREPARATIONS OF RUSSIA.

One of the unpleasant features of the discussion that is at present being renewed on the relations of Germany and Austria to each other and to other States, are the statements, repeatedly circulated, concerning the warlike preparations of Russia. Our Correspondent in Berlin has sent us some interesting but somewhat alarming figures concerning the accumulation and distribution of Russian troops along the Austrian frontier. "The whole of the troops together," he says, "are estimated at four hundred thousand men. All the commanders are already appointed, and have sealed instructions, which are to be opened only upon the receipt of further telegraphic orders." On the other hand, though complaints are still made in Berlin of the remissness of the Austrian War Department, and though the military authorities of Vienna are reproached with carrying out reforms at a pace that promises to render the period of transition, and, therefore, to some extent of disorganisation, dangerously long, we hear periodically that on the Russian frontier of Austria-Hungary the Dual Empire is acting in much the same spirit as its Muscovite neighbour. It does not require to be pointed out again, that the central fact in the relations of Austria and Russia is the latent and ineradicable animosity. The "Warlike" of the Balkans must be struck down if the Byzantine dreams of the Slavonic race are ever to be turned into realities. But behind Austria there stands a yet more formidable foe; otherwise the stroke would have been dealt long since. The Austro-German Alliance must be regarded as a strictly defensive one. But Prince Bismarck is not the man to wait for a blow to be struck at himself, or at one of his friends, merely lest he should be called an aggressor. He has too firm a grasp of things ever to become the slave of words. What Russia is doing, and what Russia is meditating, are thoroughly well known to him; and if he had convinced himself that Russia was preparing for hostilities at a convenient moment against Austria, it is probable that he would anticipate the intention in a manner highly inconvenient to those that harboured it. It has always been open to doubt whether the aged Emperor, to do, or to permit, anything that would commit Germany to active hostility against Russia has not exercised a controlling effect upon the policy of the Chancellor. The Emperor has attained a great age; his health is somewhat delicate, and it is impossible not to speculate upon the effect his disappearance from the political scene would have upon the policy of Germany. It is quite possible that, delivered from the scruples of his Imperial Master, Prince Bismarck would determine to bring these recurring rumours of Russian hostility to Germany to a sharp and definite issue. At the same time, it has to be remembered that the Muscovite spectre has for the present replaced the French bugbear; and Prince Bismarck has not had that success with his financial proposals which would warrant him in dispensing with the material for a judicious and seasonable scare. He may not get his Budget scheme; but perhaps he must have for the Army; and perhaps the best way of getting it is to fill the minds of his countrymen with alarms concerning the military preparations and the political restlessness of Germany's Eastern neighbour. In granting the possibility of the existence in Prince Bismarck's mind of a conviction that it will become necessary to put an end to the menace on the Eastern frontiers of Germany and Austria, we are far from regarding it as a proof of the aggressive character of the Austro-German Compact, and still less as a reason for speculating upon the advantages which would ensue from the formation of a counter-pacific alliance between England, France, and Italy. This country has no reason to think that the understanding between Germany and Austria was conceived, directly or indirectly, against itself; nor can anyone allege, or indicate, any step the two Powers are likely to take which would necessitate our looking out for special alliances. Italy, we fancy, is precisely in the same situation; and there can be little question that the Italian Government would rather have the "cold courtesy" of the German Powers than the most effusive friendship with France. The entrance of Lord Derby into a Cabinet the Head of which at one time cherished strong prejudices against Austria, and in which the Secretary and Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs have notorious French leanings, may possibly encourage some persons in France to imagine that a counterbalance to the Austro-German Alliance might be constructed in the fashion we have described. But that is the idlest dreaming. England wishes to remain on good terms with France; and the difficulty of doing so has been greatly lessened by the incapacity for ambitious enterprises from which France has for some time been suffering. But we are all well aware that France or Russia, if they could succeed between them in crushing Germany, would once more be as aggressive and arrogant as it is matter of history they were before Germany took the lead in Europe. No Englishman would wish to see the old situation revived, and that circumstance constitutes for us the value of the Austro-German Alliance.—*Standard.*

LORD DERBY'S TRANSLATION.

The Ministerial surprise produced on Saturday must have been prepared at very short notice. Lord Derby is not a man who could have been asked to call in Downing-street in order that the Prime Minister might see what place could be found for him. There must have been a specific post offered and accepted; and the positiveness of the statements that were in circulation leaves no doubt that in the first instance this post was the India Office. At the last moment this arrangement was altered—so completely, indeed, that down to Saturday morning the fact was known to those who were most likely to have early news of it. It is not difficult, however, to divine a reason at once for the change and for the speed with which it was carried out. It was not till Thursday that Lord Derby's speech at Manchester could be read by the Prime Minister; and the interval between then and Saturday was not too long for the redistribution of offices that must at once have been set on foot. That we do not exaggerate the effect which that speech was calculated to produce is shown by the tone of the principal journals in Paris and Berlin; and to all appearance its influence on Mr. Gladstone was not less marked. Unless something could be done to negative the inference, it would be universally assumed that Lord Derby's observations about Egypt expressed the mind of the Cabinet, and that Egypt was to be left to itself. Now, happily, something has been done to negative this inference; though whether that something will be sufficient is another question. Where Egypt is concerned the Indian Secretary is only second in importance—if, indeed, he be second—to the Foreign Secretary himself; and the most obvious means of conveying to foreign Powers that the Government were not bound by what Lord Derby had said before coming into the Cabinet was to give him another department. The very circumstance that the change was made at the eleventh hour would add to its significance. Prince Bismarck and M. Ducloux would read between the lines of the *Gazette*, and would see in Lord Derby's appointment to the Colonial Office an assurance that the foreign policy of the English Government had not been framed by the lines just laid down by him at Manchester. This, it can hardly be doubted, is the meaning of what happened on Saturday. Lord Derby enters the Cabinet on the understanding that as regards Egypt bygone are to be bygone, and that the new Secretary of State comes into the Cabinet not to influence a policy still under discussion, but to accept a policy already determined on. If this is the right interpretation of the change in Lord Derby's destination, it is of the utmost importance that the Government should not be content with what has been done. The matter is too serious to be left in any uncertainty. The acceptance of Lord Derby's views about Egypt would mean a revolution in the relations between England and the German Powers. It would imply that in the controversies, near or remote, which may arise out of the reconstitution of government in Egypt—which, for anything that can be known to the contrary, may mean all the controversies associated with the ultimate settlement of the Eastern Question—the English Government will be found, or at all events will wish to be found, on the side of France, not on the side of Germany. When everything has been done, however, it will still be impossible but that Lord Derby's acceptance of office should make an unfavourable impression in Germany and a too favourable one in France. Important as the Egyptian question is, it is by no means the only question of foreign policy that may any day arise; and upon such as arise hereafter Lord Derby will necessarily have a telling voice in the Cabinet.—*St. James's Gazette.*

THE EGYPTIAN BUDGET.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Monday night:—
The Ordinary Egyptian Budget is expected to show a deficit of about a hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and there is no surplus to meet the four hundred thousand pounds required for the Extraordinary Budget of the ensuing year. Though this latter Budget is extraordinary, there are certain fixed charges falling upon it, as for instance, the hundred thousand pounds needed for the Sudan. On the other hand, there will probably be sacrifices and economies which will so reduce the charges in the Ordinary Budget as to enable it to show some surplus. The Secretary set aside for the moment the debt has been already expended in buying up bonds. These, however, have not yet been cancelled. It is now a question whether to cancel them in the ordinary course, and borrow a million, as allowed by the Law of Liquidation, so as to enable the Treasury to continue its payments; or to issue the bonds afresh and make an effort to struggle on without borrowing. The most serious calls will be the yet indefinite cost of the Army of Occupation, and the demand for a hundred and fifty thousand pounds expected from the Domains this year, in addition to the hundred and fifty thousand pounds on debt assigned in the provinces, which has not in any year as yet been met by that administration. It is under consideration to propose some modification of the unlimited credit enjoyed by the Domains on the Egyptian Treasury, owing to the perpetual drain which such a credit entails on the resources. The prisoners who have been sentenced to banishment will leave for Ceylon on Christmas-day.

FIRE AT GUNTON HALL.—A fire broke out about half-past six o'clock on Monday morning at Gunton Hall, North Walsham, the residence of Lord Suffield. Engines from various parts were quickly on the spot, but, notwithstanding their united efforts, the flames were still raging fiercely at midday; and it is feared the Hall will be completely destroyed. Attempts are being made to save some of the contents. It is stated that Lord Suffield is not at home. A later despatch says:—The fire spread rapidly, and within a very short time of the alarm being raised half the building was enveloped in flames. Telegrams were immediately despatched to Cromer, Aylsham, North Walsham, and other places for fire-engines, which were on the spot. These, with the engines belonging to the Hall, enabled the flames to be subdued, but not until half the building was destroyed.

ILLNESS OF THE DEAN OF EXETER.—Information was received by the cathedral authorities of Exeter on Sunday that the Dean was seriously ill in Vienna. While staying in that capital a few months ago the Dean slipped while in his room and fractured a bone of one of his legs. The injury has since kept him confined to the house. A report now comes that, in addition to the accident, the Dean is also suffering from an acute attack of bronchitis, and prayers were on Sunday offered up at the afternoon service at the Cathedral for his recovery.

THE MINISTRY.

Important Ministerial changes having now been made, says the *Daily News*, a complete list of the present members of the Government and officers of the Royal Household who retain office with the Government will be found useful. The following list, which has been specially prepared for the *Daily News*, is arranged on an original plan, showing at a glance the names of Ministers and Officers of the Household in each House of Parliament, and giving—those who are Cabinet Ministers, while placing the officials in the various departments together:—

The names of Cabinet Ministers are printed in small capitals.

Cabinet Ministers and those marked thus * are Privy Counsellors.

Marked thus † Privy Counsellor for Ireland only.

THE MINISTRY.

OFFICES.

First Lord Treasury

Chancellor Exchequer

Junior Lord

Patronage Sec.

Financial Sec.

Lord Chancellor Lord SELWYN

Lord President of Council

Lord Privy Seal Lord CARLISLE

Home Secretary

Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies

For. Secretary Lord GRANVILLE

Un. Secretary

Un. Secretary Lord DERRY

Sec. for War

Un. Secretary Lord MORLEY

Sec. for India Lord KIMBERLEY

Un. Secretary Lord RUSSELL

Sec. for the Colonies Lord NORTHBRIDGE

Un. Secretary

Ch. Sec. Lord

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individual had his pockets turned out, and any letters or documents found upon him very carefully perused. As a result the search proved a failure, for evidently the suspected parties had left their revolvers at home. No arms were found save one revolver taken from a sailor in a public-house on the quays. He was a stranger in the city, and was unaware of the Arms Act being in force. The police did not arrest him, but took his name and address. In another house on the quay they found concealed a couple of useless old swords. In the shop of Mr. Gilligan, in Middle Abbey-street, which has obtained a certain notoriety since the murder of Constable Cox, 43 persons were searched. A Nagle, in Earl-street, 105 persons were put through the same ordeal, and the police report that the following numbers were subjected to a close examination:—At Murphy's, in Capel-street, 42 men; in Britain-street, 14; in Lower Bridge-street, 21; in Cooke-street, seven; in Middle Garden-street, eight; in Lower Gloucester-street, 17; in High-street, 42; in a second shop in Capel-street, 32; in Corkhill, 50; in Angier-street, 60; on Burch Quay, 12; in Vine Tavern-street, 20; and on Sir John Rogerson's Quay, 20. No documents of any compromise character were found on any of these people. Not the slightest resistance was offered to the police in the performance of their duty, though some of the persons searched complained loudly of what they called the indignity to which they were subjected.

At a meeting of the Licensed Grocers' and Vintners' Association on Monday afternoon, a resolution was passed, which, while recognising the imperative duty incumbent on the trade, in common with all law-abiding citizens, to support the efforts to put down crime and outrage, protested against the "harsh character" perfectly futile action of making a special raid upon licensed houses and subjecting their customers to needless hardship and annoyance.

A startling state of things is disclosed in a letter from the Rev. S. W. Gallagher, of Carrick, county Donegal. He asserts that absolute famine prevails in that part of the county, and that the lives of 2,500 persons are in imminent danger. He adds: "The situation is immediate relief or immediate death."

The *Freeman's Journal* states that owing to delicacy of health and pressure of private business, Mr. Gill, M.P., the junior representative for the county of Westmeath, has determined to resign his seat in Parliament. He formally expressed his intention to resign on Saturday received by Mr. James Tuohy, Chairman of the Mullingar Town Commissioners. So far no action has been taken, but it is expected that his constituents will request him to retain the seat.

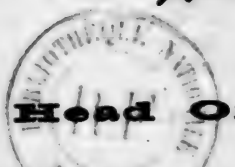
The special correspondent of the *Daily News* in Ireland, writing from Ballaghderreen, on Monday, says:—It has long been accepted as a truism that if there is distress, or want, or famine in any part of Ireland, it is sure to develop itself in the most severe form in the county of Mayo. Mayo has within it a larger number of cottier tenants, and cottier tenants have been known to starve, but whose land is the most wretched quality, than any other county can boast of. In Kerry and in Donegal many of the people are as poor and their lands are not a whit better, but neither the one or the other has a population within, say, one poor-law union which the average value of the holdings is 9s. 6d. per acre of the population. Ballaghderreen—I spell it in accordance with local usage and to suit local pronunciation (which accentuates the first and third syllables), and not in accordance with the time-table form (Ballaghderreen, the pronunciation of which has so often been a stumbling-block to English readers)—Ballaghderreen forms the extreme northern boundary of Mayo, all the rest of the county lying either to the south, the south-east, or the south-west. Sligo and Rossmore and Roscommon lie to the north. The land in the neighbourhood is to a very large extent reclaimed bog, in most places very badly drained. It will give a fair and even a good crop of potatoes in a dry year; but the excessive rains of the past season checked here, as elsewhere, the growth of the staple food of the people, and in some places the parish priest informed me, the people when digging the potato fields threw down the spade in disgust. Many of them, who usually rely on potatoes as their principal means of subsistence until May or June, are at this moment without a single potato in their cellars. They say that they have only what will supply them for a few weeks after Christmas. In no part of Ireland, not even in the worst parts of Connemara, are the houses of the peasantry worse than in North Mayo. They are mostly built either of mud or of stone, and are very damp and cold. In some places the parish priest informed me, the people when digging the potato fields threw down the spade in disgust. Many of them, who usually rely on potatoes as their principal means of subsistence until May or June, are at this moment without a single potato in their cellars. They say that they have only what will supply them for a few weeks after Christmas. In no part of Ireland, not even in the worst parts of Connemara, are the houses of the peasantry worse than in North Mayo. 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The *Overland China Mail* gives an account taken from the Manila papers, of the typhoon which visited Manila on the 21st of October. The typhoon began at 6 o'clock in the morning and continued unabated forty until about two o'clock in the afternoon. Not a house in Manila escaped injury, thousands of people were left without shelter, and the loss of life and property must have been enormous. During the storm it was impossible to walk in the streets owing to the force of the wind, which rolling carriages along like playthings, sweeping sheets of iron roofing floating in air like pieces of paper, and blowing down the roofs of the houses. A single house entrance; in fact, not a rain house, walled city escaped damage of some kind. The Varieties Theatre has completely disappeared with the exception of the stage, not a tree was left standing in the city. The barracks at Malabon were blown down, and the greatest disorder reigned. The inmates of the military hospital had to leave the institution and seek refuge in San Juan de Dios. The greater part of the foreign merchants' houses at the P. O. Magallanes, the barracks at Malabon, the ships at the wharves, the houses of rice, founded. No mention is made of crews. The telegraph wires were blown down, the flagstaff at the American consulate blown over, and, in the confusion which everywhere reigned, the streets were blown away. Water standing in the street to a depth of eighteen inches improved matters; and the pitiable aspect of women and children, rendered homeless, struggling in the midst of the uprooted trees, placed in the most common one, in the hands of the state of affairs, may be said to be Manila in several kinds. It is said that the typhoon shook thousands of earthquakes' folk. No such destructive typhoon has

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NOTICE.

A Four-page Supplement is published with this day's number of the *Messenger*, and will be delivered gratis with each copy of the paper. It contains our American news and an interesting variety of literary extracts.

Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 20—21, 1882.

THE NEW ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

We are able to announce that the Archbishop of Canterbury has been offered to the Bishop of Truro; and, though the post has not yet been formally accepted, there can be little doubt that Archbishop Tait's successor will be Dr. Benson. The offer had been previously made to the Bishop of Winchester, whose distinguished career, moderation of character, and long-standing personal friendship with the Prime Minister seemed to mark him out for the highest position in the Church; but Dr. Harold Browne pleaded age and infirmity, and the plea was perforce accepted. Failing him, other names have been freely canvassed during the past fortnight, including those of the Dean of St. Paul's, the Bishop of Durham, and others; but Dr. Church's health would never have stood the strain of the position, and there may be excellent reasons why Dr. Lightfoot should continue in his northern see. There are many people who would have liked to see the Primacy held by the man who, besides having proved himself a good Bishop, stands unquestionably at the head of English theological scholarship, and whose name in that capacity is as well known in Germany as it is at home. As, however, this is not to be, we can but assent with all willingness to the choice of the Crown, and welcome Dr. Benson to the great though difficult position in which he will no doubt be placed. Dr. Benson is one of the youngest of the Bishops, and he has presided over one of the youngest of the sees. He was born in the year 1829, at Birmingham, and received his early education at King Edward's School, under Dr. Prince Lee, afterwards Bishop of Manchester. He had schoolfellows who afterwards became distinguished, and if it is the case that Joseph Barber Lightfoot was one of them, the fact is not a little curious. At Cambridge he had a successful career, taking a good mathematical place, and being Senior Chancery's Classical Medalist. Soon afterwards he became a Fellow of Trinity. About the year 1853 he was made assistant-master at Rugby, from the head-mastership of which school his predecessor in the See of Canterbury had only lately retired; and in 1858 he was chosen the first Head Master of Wellington College. In this post, which he held for fourteen years, he was extremely successful, and under his administration Wellington became a public school of high reputation. Retiring in 1872, he became Canon and Chancery of Lincoln, and for some years devoted the educational and ecclesiastical interests of the city and diocese. When the Bishopric of Truro was founded in 1876, Lord Beaconsfield appears to have thought that the man who had made so much out of a new school might make much also out of a new see; and Dr. Benson was appointed. As Bishop of Truro he has been in many ways most successful. He has worked hard; he has organised the diocese; he has restored churches—let us hope with as much prudence as zeal—has founded mission chapels in outlying places, where the Church had lost her ancient hold; he has attracted, as one who has been an eminent schoolmaster knows how to attract them, eager and able young men to work under him. In all this he has shown himself a very capable organiser, and, as our correspondents this morning bear witness, he has succeeded not only in making himself valued by Churchmen, but in acting on the whole harmoniously with those difficult people, the Cornish Nonconformists. Once, however, it would seem, and too recently for the Dissenters to have forgotten it, he allowed his Church feelings to carry him away. At the late Diocesan Conference, when the Psalmist said in his haste of all men, Dr. Benson said of all members of the Diocesan Society, "When I see you, I am reported to have said, 'The crafty forgeries and the miles of printed falsities which are rolled out and about by our self-appointed, would-be liberators, I think it is time we spoke out.' It is not surprising that the Dissenters of Cornwall have not altogether liked this hard-hitting; and, indeed, for the peace of the Church, it is a good thing that we are not to take it as a fair sample of the new Archbishop's style. 'Speaking out' is silver to a Bishop now and then; to an Archbishop of Canterbury silence may be gold.—*Times*.

THE "SUPPRESSED DESPATCH."

We have been unwilling, as long as silence was possible, to draw attention to these columns to the question of what is called "the Suppressed Despatch," because it is a subject that is very unpleasant to deal with, not so much on account of the facts of the case as of the interpretation which has been put upon them. The facts are, indeed, simple enough. There is no doubt that Sir Edward Hamley wrote a Report after Tel-el-Kebir, in which he described, in his usual masterly style, the attack of his division. There is also no doubt that the Report has not been published. On these two certainties have been built a thousand suggestions, true or false, and General Hamley's article in the *Nineteenth Century* seems intended both to supply the place of the despatch and to give form and colour to the suggestions which, until its appearance, were vague and shadowy. Before entering into the questions now being so fiercely debated in military circles with regard to the events of the battle, we cannot but express our deep regret that the controversy has been raised. It is not as if a slight had been thrown upon General Hamley or his Division. Both the Commander and his troops were praised equally with General Wills and his Division, and General Hamley has received the insignia of Knight Commander of the Bath. Search where we will through Sir Garnet Wolseley's Despatches, not a word of disparagement can be found. Indeed it is clear that until Sir Edward Hamley or his friends suggested that something was the matter, no

one within the Three Kingdoms, outside a small military circle, knew that there was any want of cordiality among the Generals. But since the grievance has been opened, there has flowed upon us a stream of most unpleasant charges, innuendoes, suggestions, and suspicions. It is openly stated that while we were all rejoicing at home, and preparing to welcome back as a hero everyone engaged in the Egyptian campaign, the officers of superior rank were already disagreeing at Cairo. We are told that at least three pairs of Generals were not then on speaking terms, and are not now; that there were jealousies and heart-burnings between the Commanders which would be only too likely to spread among the men. It must be allowed that this is very unfortunate, to say the least of it, and that nothing less than very grave public reasons could justify the officer or officers who first laid bare the wound. It is almost impossible to believe that the disagreement can have arisen from the terms in which the action was described. If this be so, and, if, unhappily, there are other and less public reasons for this deplorable want of harmony between the Generals, it seems to us that no useful object can be served by carrying the matter further. If reports of Generals are to be published as rival productions, and Commanders of Divisions are to criticise the verdicts of Generals Commanding in Chief, our whole system of military discipline will have to be revised. Indeed, we are at a loss to understand how it is that there has been no expression of decided opinion on the part of the superior authorities, who are supreme judges in such matters as these. It happens, unfortunately enough, that there are questions of military organisation on which the Army may be said to be divided against itself. In a battle like that of Tel-el-Kebir there must have been some looseness here and there, and cases of apparent unsteadiness which might be brought into the field of discussion, and so create wretched heart-burnings and recriminations. There are such in all battles, and they who suppose that every soldier behaves like a hero only show their want of acquaintance with the practical side of warfare. If, instead of sharing the pride and glory of success, the two Divisions of Infantry begin to criticise each other's conduct in the field, we shall be in presence of a state of things which would discredit the most perfect Army in the world. This is on all accounts to be deprecated. There has been no question of the gallantry of the men, no hostile criticism of the conduct of the commanders. Hitherto the country has shown nothing but gratitude to those who have successfully carried out its wishes. We earnestly trust that those who are now adding fuel to what is as yet but a small flame will hold their hand, lest the good feeling and discipline of the Army be brought into serious peril.—*Standard*.

THE SENTENCE ON MESSRS. BONToux AND FÉDER.

Messrs. Bontoux and Féder, respectively chairman and manager of the Union Générale, have been convicted of having made false declarations at the general meetings of the shareholders, of having falsified accounts by fictitious entries, of having carried on Bourse operations with the company's funds, and of having brought about a fall of prices with the object of fraudulently creating a demand for shares. They have in consequence been sentenced to five years' imprisonment each, accompanied by a fine. The sentence, though heavy, is certainly not too severe for such offences. But, in truth, to a man like M. Bontoux, the habit of Courts and the champion of a party, the most terrible sentence is condemnation on charges that amount to vulgar swindling. In 1878 the Clerical and Marchand parties in France, finding themselves beaten in politics, were eager to retrieve their fortune in the realm of finance. They decided therefore to start a great bank which was to compete with the Jews for ascendancy on the Bourse and in the Money Market. The board of directors comprised some of the greatest names amongst the old noblesse, and the chairman was a trained administrator, but he resigned before the first subscription of shares was effected, as he found that at the very start the directors were engaging in a kind of business which he, as an experienced banker, could not approve. Then M. Bontoux, an eminent engineer, who had been at the head of a great Austrian railway, was appointed chairman, and the new bank entered upon its adventurous career. It had a capital of a million sterling, and its business was, in plain language, to be the promotion of joint-stock companies and the facilitating of speculation on the Bourse. As there were fears that the first subscription of capital might not be very successful the board induced a syndicate of bankers to guarantee the subscription of two-thirds of the shares in return for a commission of £20,000. It was this which led to the resignation of the Marquis de Plessy. Between two and three thousand shares were subscribed for, nevertheless, and these M. Balensi subsequently took. The prosecution charged the directors with using the name of M. Balensi illegally, alleging that the subscription was fictitious. The defence contended that the transaction was a *bona fide* sale, and that M. Balensi, in fact, realised a considerable profit. The Court has found the charge proven. Some time later it was decided to double the capital of the bank. Already it was intended to start a number of companies. There was to be a bank for the Austrian half of Austria-Hungary, another for Hungary, a third for the construction of railways in South Eastern Europe, and a fourth for financial aid in regard to France and various plans in regard to Russia. To guarantee all these it was thought that the capital should be raised to two millions, and on this occasion again the company applied for large numbers of its own shares. The company was in the habit of assisting speculation in its shares by lending money upon them to its clients. At the time of the second subscription it held as security a large number of its shares, and as the shareholders had a preference in the subscription, it used these shares to apply for the new shares. Messrs. Bontoux and Féder pleaded that they were the assignees of the *bona fide* holders of the shares, and consequently were entitled to all the rights of those holders. The plea is ingenious, but in fact it admits the charge

brought against them by the prosecution, that they, as chairman and manager of the bank, used the money of the bank to subscribe for its own shares, and thus to induce the public to believe that the subscription had been successful, when in fact it was not, and thereby to run up the price of the shares already unduly inflated by wild speculation. Still later it was decided to double the shares once more, and for the third time there was the same illicit subscription. Still again the capital was raised from four to six millions sterling. The last issue of capital was only a few months before the collapse of the bank, and it was preceded by a meeting of the shareholders, at which a balance-sheet was presented, which represented the bank to hold a sum of over 7 millions sterling, to have in addition a reserve of over 2 millions sterling, and a surplus from the preceding year of about 1 million sterling. Three months later the bank was declared bankrupt, when there was found to be a deficit of 8½ millions sterling, instead of the pretended surplus of 10½ millions sterling. Such being the facts, the Court could have had little hesitation in the conclusion at which it has arrived. It is a sad history, illustrating how men of good repute and originally, perhaps, of fair intentions may be led deeper and deeper into illegality under the influence of blind passion and unworthy greed.—*Daily News*.

EGYPT.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphed on Wednesday:—The release of political prisoners is continuing, and those who have already returned to their homes at Cairo and in the provinces are all expressing a strong desire to remain in the highest positions. They are overwhelmed with expressions of sympathy for having been subjected to three months of an imprisonment which is now ended by their unconditional release, without even a formal trial. The Commission of three members has been appointed to carry out the confiscation of the property of the prisoners banished to Ceylon, and by an order from the Ministry of the Interior the provincial officials are to seize the lands and cattle belonging to them. The Commission is not expected to announce its work till after the prisoners have left Egypt. The slow progress which is apparently being made in the question of indemnities is creating great dissatisfaction at Alexandria. The Egyptian Government is disposed to enter into the matter as soon as the European Powers settle the composition of a Commission. The difficulties in the way of this are as raised principally by the lesser European Powers.

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* in a despatch, dated Wednesday, says:—We are in the midst of a momentous political crisis. Scarcely authentic information doubles the avidity with which the public catch at any communication of an apparently inspired character, and seek to construct for itself an image of what is really going on behind the scenes. It would fill columns were I to reproduce all the interesting information contained in the *Telegraph* and the *Standard* of the past few days. The Berlin Tribune. Visits such as those of Count Herbert Bismarck to Count Kaloky are a departure from the diplomatic etiquette which regards an Embassy as the proper channel for the exchange of communications of an important character. We hear of letters from General Goltz to friends in St. Petersburg, shadowing forth approaching great events. We are told that M. de Giers went to Varzin half hoping to detach General from Austria, and Rome for the purpose of drawing Italy away from the Central European Powers, and that, if he proceeds to Vienna, it will be with the intention of concluding an Austro-Russian alliance. Credible news from Moscow informs us that the Slavians have never been more clamorous for peace than now, and that they are greatly irritated by Prince Bismarck's reported refusal of the advances made through M. de Giers. Trustworthy information from St. Petersburg tells me that though the policy of reticence in regard to the Russian situation has not yet been abandoned by the Court, General Ignatieff's influence is manifesting itself in society. He declares, firstly, that the Slavonic and Military parties in Austria are anxious to escape from the abasing bondage or tutelage to which they are subjected by the Russian terms with Russia for the partition of Turkey; secondly, that if Russia were to strike a destructive blow at the Austrian monarchy, Germany, paralysed by France, would be unable to rescue her ally. Prince Bismarck clearly considers the Russian situation as a serious matter, and that they are greatly irritated by Prince Bismarck's reported refusal of the advances made through M. de Giers. Trustworthy information from St. Petersburg tells me that though the policy of reticence in regard to the Russian situation has not yet been abandoned by the Court, General Ignatieff's influence is manifesting itself in society. 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THE MURDER OF LORD MOUNTMORRES.—*"Dublin Freeman's Journal"* says there is strong reason for believing that the secret investigations of the Government at length place them in possession of important information with regard to the murder of Viscount Mountmorres, which was committed on the 12th of November, 1836. This murder, as may be remembered, was committed near Clonbur, with no great distance of the subsequent tragedy of Maamtrasna and Lough Mask. Evidenced by the success of their investigations, these last-named gentlemen are now engaged in inquiries regarding the murder of Lord Mountmorres. There are grounds for believing that the Government have now in their possession sworn informations which it is thought will enable the Crown at no distant date to place certain persons upon their trial for capital charge. The disclosures, it is understood, are of a character which makes it very probable that the trials will take place in the Green-street Courthouse at the next Sessions Commission, in February or March.

MR. DAVITT ON THE LAND QUESTION.—Mr. Michael Davitt addressed the meeting of Irishmen in the County Hall, Batley, Yorkshire, on the 10th inst., on "Land for the People." He contended that if Irishmen concentrated all their energies upon the solution of

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Great Britain.

LONDON, DECEMBER 21—22, 1882.

THE MINISTRY.

The present condition of the Ministry is peculiar. Many of the great offices are doubled with another and usually a smaller office. Mr. Gladstone has only just disintegrated the tenure in his own person of the Chancellorship of the Exchequer and the First Lordship of the Treasury. This exceptional arrangement was recommended for a time by the exceptional advantages which it promised and which might have been realised had Mr. Gladstone's strength continued equal to the double burden imposed upon him. The appointment of Mr. Shaw Lefevre to act as Deputy Postmaster-General until Mr. Fawcett shall be able to resume the duties he has admirably discharged unites for the time the charge of the Post Office with that of Public Works. Lord Kimberley is Secretary of State for India and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Lord Spencer is Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and Lord President of the Council. Lord Cardington is Lord Privy Seal and Acting or Deputy Lord President. The perpetuation of this twofold distribution of offices is of course out of the question. Lord Spencer's colleagues are naturally anxious that on the completion of his arduous and self-sacrificing labours as Lord-Lieutenant he should return not only to his place on the Ministerial Bench, but should resume the work of that department of the Government over which he still tidily presides, and for which he is specially qualified. In the distribution of the incongruous work devolving upon the Privy Council office, Lord Spencer has attended rather to that portion of it which relates to cattle, and Mr. Mundella to education. Lord Spencer has the knowledge of all matters bucolic and agricultural which is associated, not less than a thorough and enlightened Liberalism, with the name he bears. But in his absence, almost the whole work of the department falls upon Mr. Mundella. It is not possible that a temporary and deputy Lord President, even though he be as versatile as Lord Cardington, should be able to take his fair share of the business of the office. The undivided labour of the complex department in excess of the permanent strength of any one Minister, even though he be as energetic and able as Mr. Mundella, Lord Spencer's special and unique knowledge of Ireland makes his retention of Cabinet office, with a view to his resumption of his place in Council and in Parliament, so desirable as to be almost imperative. But an arrangement might surely be made which should give its proper working power to the office of which Lord Spencer is the head. His transfer to the post of Lord Privy Seal, or to that of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster would maintain his place in the Cabinet. At the same time it would offer occasion for a redistribution of offices which might restore the efficiency of the Privy Council Department, and give facility for the further adjustments which have been announced and for which the public is looking. With Lord Spencer as Chancellor of the Duchy, an office which could very conveniently be held with the Lord-Lieutenancy, Lord Kimberley might become President of the Council, Lord Northbrook Secretary of State for India, and Sir Charles Dilke, or some member of the Cabinet to whose office Sir Charles Dilke might succeed, First Lord of the Admiralty. Outside the Cabinet, Ministerial changes are inevitable. General opinion in the House of Commons points to Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice as Sir Charles Dilke's successor in the Under-Secretaryship for Foreign Affairs; but general opinion has pointed to Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice before for vacant posts in the Government, and has been mistaken or premature. He has, however, that thorough and minute knowledge of foreign politics, that more than diplomatic and almost intimate acquaintance with French, which, in spite of Prince Bismarck, is still the international language of Europe, and that hereditary taste and capacity for business, which are essential in the place Sir C. Dilke is about to quit. It is not easily intelligible why Ministerial recognition of Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice's Parliamentary position and ability has been so long deferred. One of the incidental disadvantages of the transfer of the India Office to a peer is that it makes Lord Enfield's retirement from the Under-Secretaryship of that department necessary. Lord Alfield has done during many years steady and unobtrusive service in different posts, service which has not received acknowledgment in excess of its quality and duration, and it is to be hoped that means will be found of continuing his connection with the Government in an office not inferior to that which he is about to relinquish.—*Daily News*.

THE SENTENCE ON CAPTAIN MAXWELL HIERON.

By the sentence of a Court-martial which has been engaged for a week in investigating the charges against him, Captain Maxwell Hieron, Commander of H.M.S. *Clyde*, of the Royal Naval Reserve, at Aberdeen, was on Thursday dismissed the service. Briefly put, the case against him was this: That Mr. Hadden, the ship's Corporal, having lately found that pecuniary management of the ship, and that the accounts were, to put it mildly, most loosely kept, was moved by a sense of duty to complain to the Captain, and subsequently to head-quarters. So far from finding redress, he was subjected to oppressive treatment: told to produce his witnesses and then arrested, that he might not do so in time; and finally condemned and disgraced because he failed to prove his case. The Court-martial not only investigated the charge of oppressive treatment which thus arose, but also went into all the original allegations of misappropriation of stores and the like. Notwithstanding the defence of Mr. Buller, which really suggests many points for reflection, the Court were unable to acquit Captain Hieron of more than two of the fourteen charges brought against him. It should be added that one of those two was the serious accusation that he had caused books of accounts to be mutilated. He stands, therefore, convicted of having sold old stores without rendering account; of having employed sailors to work at his private house; painting the house with ship's paint,

and furnishing it with ship's furniture, improperly condemned, that he might get it at the price of firewood; of buying timber at two pounds a ton for his own purposes as firewood for the ship, when the price of firewood was but twenty-five shillings; and, finally, of oppressing the one man who tried to put a stop to these abuses. That there have been gross abuses on the *Clyde* is unquestionable. That the Captain did employ the ship's men for his own work, and did keep loose accounts as between his private stores and those of her Majesty, the evidence seems to show. Such a state of things is not, perhaps, so uncommon but that usage and custom might be pleaded on its behalf, but it is most objectionable, and an occasionally severe check to it is wholesome. Though it may not in the end involve dishonesty, it must always involve, for the time, badly kept accounts, and these are the worst road leading to destruction. The line of the defence was that Captain Hieron necessarily left much to his inferior officer, Mr. Fitzgerald, and that the latter, finding his pay insufficient, deliberately avowed his intention of seizing all he could lay hands on. In his cabin, so it is alleged, reposed the carpet which the Captain was induced to report as sunk. He it was who punished those of the crew who would not sell tickets for the sixpenny dances on board ship. To him rather than to the Captain the witnesses say they habitually looked for orders. But upon these allegations we offer at present no comment, seeing that Mr. Fitzgerald is himself now to be tried. The point of public importance is that, whether the abuses were the work of himself, or of his Captain, or of both, it is admitted "there was dishonesty on board the ship," and that this dishonesty, with all its accompanying scandals and abuses, had been kept up through some years without question or detection. There is matter for reflection in that fact.—*Standard*.

BRITISH INFLUENCE IN EGYPT.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on Thursday night:—In spite of the decision of the Council of Ministers, three guards remain over and above the number of the Egyptian army. The Turkish sentries were, indeed, removed lately from the house of Ali Pasha, but were placed yesterday at the house of Yacoub Saïdy. Their behaviour to the ladies and guests is reported as shameful. Contrary to the promise made to Mr. Broadley, the guards enter the house by day and sleep in the lower rooms at night. They also search persons entering and leaving. This species of oppression under the eyes of the English enables an idea to be formed of what, if unchecked, the vengeance taken would have been, and of what may be expected on the evacuation of the city by the troops. English moral influence, which has never been great, and is now lessening daily, though exercised under the protection of a material force, would cease entirely on the withdrawal of that force, the Egyptians being slowly handed back to the power of a Turkish and Circassian bureaucracy. And the last state of things promises to be worse than the first. The cry from the people is that the days of Ismail are beginning again. The urgent need of some system of European inspection in regard to the administration of justice and the question of the distribution of water for the cultivation of the lands are prominent. At present the prisons are crowded with untried cases, the accused lingering for months in chains without examination. English inspection and fixed guard deliveries alone will remedy this. The irrigation abuses are not less flagrant. In the Delta and the Nile, the canals, the ruin of the small proprietors. It is believed that Lord Dufferin is devoting the most serious attention to these two questions.

INFLUENCE OF CLIMATE ON ELOQUENCE.

Our English atmosphere has a curious influence in disposing Irish patriots to moderation of speech. Speaking at Stalybridge, Mr. Davitt—not by any means for the first time, it should be said—unequivocally denounces crime. "Whoever is responsible for it, whether the Land League or landlordism, it must be swept away." Nor shall we suspect the sincerity of his sentiment when he reads the condemnation on the practical ground that "agrarian crime was the death of the Land League." Yes, that is true. But it is true also that crime was the secret of its exuberant vitality. It is very well for Mr. Davitt to denounce crime, but it is his job to do it in the Land League, ever applied to outrage-mongers the weapon of Boycotting which was applied so freely to those who helped the law? Let the proceedings in the Huddersfield trial. In the last trial, which ended in a conviction on Wednesday, the murder was a prominent member of the local league, and when in gaol as a suspect he was supplied with funds by the good ladies who managed for Mr. Parnell in his absence. They had, it must be said, the grace to attempt a defence. They gave help to all suspects, they pleaded, they could not distinguish between the criminal and the innocent. Yes; and meanwhile the suspects were being toasted en masse at patriotic gatherings as martyrs of the cause. To go back to Mr. Davitt; when he told his hearers at Navan that the time might come when the cottiers of the West should be advised to seize the pasture lands of Meath, he was as distinctly preparing the way to crime as the engineer who lays a train is preparing an explosion.—*St. James's Gazette*.

THE BECKFORD LIBRARY.—The valuable books continue to keep up their prices, the average being generally about £10 per lot, the total of Thursday being for 214 lots, £2,060. Malcolm's *Londonium reditum*, 7 vols., sold for £10 10s.—Bain, *Malebranche's Letters*, 1686—7, 213 5s.—Tschener, *Mandeville, Tres plaissant livre*, etc., parlant mot à mot de l'ancien de Paris et de son doulx Meur, etc., 1695, 231.—Quaritch, *Marcel de Paris, Vigiles du Roy Charles VII.*, sm. 4to, Paris, no date, £20.—Quaritch, *Marguerite de la Marguerite des Princesses, Roine de Navarre*, 2 vols., 1517, £26.—Ellis and White, *Marguerite de Valois, Son Tombeau*, Paris, 1551, £19 5s.—Tschener, *Marguerite de Valois, L'Heptameron des Nouvelles*, 4to, Paris, 1559, Louis XIV's fine copy, beautifully bound by Ruet, £400.—Pearson; another copy, Bernes, 1780, £40.—B. P. Stevens; another of the same edition, with proof before letters of the engravings, £49.—Quaritch, *Marot, Œuvres*, Lyon, 1545, £29.—Quaritch, *Marot, Œuvres*, La Haye, 1700, £30.—Pearson, *Marot (Jan)*, *Ses deux voyages heureux de Genes et Venise par Loys XII.*, en vers, Paris, G. Tory, 1337, £45.—Tschener, *Martialis Epigrammata*, fine copy, Ludg. Bat., 1670, £42.—Tschener, *Martyn (P.)*, *Isles nouvellement trouves en la grande mer oceane*, sm. 4to, 1632, £127.—Quaritch, *Marulli, Hymni et Epigrammata*, 4to, Florentine, 1497, Groler's own copy, with his mottoes, and beautifully bound, £275.—Pearson, *Majeri, Atalanta fugiens*, sm. 4to, 1618, £13.—Quaritch.

THE RECENT "EGYPTIAN GAZETTE."

The following letter has been addressed to the Editor of the *Daily Telegraph*:—Sir—However careful and exact the authorities may be, or may strive to be, in giving praise and distributing honours to deserving officers, there must almost of necessity be a deserving few who, though they failed to be mentioned in despatches or to come prominently into public notice, yet, nevertheless, rendered valuable services in the campaign which demands some public recognition. At the same time, there are often both "regimental" and "sentimental" regulations that offer obstacles to promotion and the bestowal of honours; but in the late large *Gazette* the "exception" to the rule were many, and, therefore, justifiable to point out certain hard cases where the justice of an appropriate reward is apparent, and no precedent is required for the extension of a little further generosity. It is easily understood, in the first instance, that some little reference was shown in recommending the Guards, whatever their merits may have been. Favouritism would perhaps have been ascribed, and though in their case many deserved mention, few got it. Notable amongst these omissions were the names of Colonel Milne-Horne, M.P., who commanded and led the Royal Horse Guards (Blues), Lieut.-Colonel Hon. R. Talbot, who so ably piloted the 1st Life Guards, and Surgeon-Major Hume-Spy of the 2d Life Guards. The former endured all the drudgery of the campaign, was second in command of the Household Cavalry, and, though a continual sufferer from fever, laboured hard and ably through the troubles with which his regiment had to cope. Col. Talbot, a dashing and accomplished soldier, who volunteered for the Zulu and Sikhutuk campaigns, was present at every engagement, and occasionally in command of the regiment. Surgeon-Major Hume-Spy was the first medical officer who formed a field hospital, and did so without resources. When sick and wounded were lying about, he, with the sanction of General Drury-Lowe, seized a cottage at Mah-sameh, and there improvised a temporary hospital, having scarcely anything but scanty rations to supply it with. His energy and kindness saved many a life. In the face of great difficulties and some opposition he stuck gamely to the work, several hours on the battlefield of Tel-el-Kebir, and several days in a crowded hospital at Cairo, completing a devoted and noble service. The services of these three officers are more especially deserving of notice, as they had the task of initiating men new to active service and untutored to the roughing they underwent. The services of Lieut. Pigott, a Contraband, who, after the rescue of the 2d Life Guards, succeeded Major Parr in command of the Mounted Infantry at a critical time, was severely wounded, and richly deserved a reward that many anticipated was in store for him. Captain J. S. S. R. A. D. C. General Wood has been mentioned in the South African campaigns, has been repeatedly mentioned in despatches, and contributed in no small degree to the successful occupation of the country intervening between Alexandria and Suez, which his gallant chief was deputed "peacefully" to hold. He also took a prominent part in the settlement of the subsequent Damietta complications. A word should also be said for such officers as Assistant Commissary-General J. Johnston, who, beset by demands and pressure of the heaviest description, worked with indefatigable energy, and commendable patience, and failed perhaps to get promotion because of his unavailing detention in the camp. The show of persons with large families, but everybody is not a person with a large family, and even all large families are not given to being boisterously gregarious. Those who are not so given have at least the advantage that they carry the necessary apparatus for the maintenance of their families under their own hat; and those who are so given never have much difficulty in finding others like-minded with them. Both classes are therefore tolerably independent of public provision for their pleasure. But for those who are not so independent, the Christmas and the future New Year will doubtless be at least fairly bountiful in attractions.—*Daily News*.

COURT AND FASHIONABLE NEWS.

Prince Edward of Saxony, and Admiral Sir Geoffrey Horsey arrived at Osborne yesterday. Prince Edward of Saxony had luncheon with the Queen. Her Majesty drove out, attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely and Miss Paget. Princess Beatrice attended by Miss Bouverie. The Queen walked and drove with Princess Beatrice this morning.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with Prince Albert Victor and Prince George and the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, were present at the children's Christmas party given by the Earl and Countess of Dudley at Dudley House, Park-lane, on Thursday afternoon.

The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk left Norfolk House, St. James's-square, for Arrand Castle, on Thursday.

The Lord Chancellor and Lady Selborne and Hon. Miss Palmer have gone to Black-moor, Petersfield, for the Christmas holidays.

Lady (Bellingham) Graham has nearly recovered from the illness which has detained her at home since the death of her husband.

Mr. J. Spicer, J.P., entertained the Madagascarian Ambassadors at dinner on Thursday evening at his residence at Woodford, when some of the members of the London Missionary Society were present.

Lady Beaumont has arrived at Thomas's Hotel from Brighton.

Sir James Paget was summoned from London late on Wednesday night, and saw Lord Stamford in consultation with Lord Devon.

The *Morning Post* says:—"A private letter has been received, giving a very satisfactory account of the health of Sir Stafford North-cote, who, after a somewhat hoisterous voyage in the Bay of Biscay, reached Port Mahon on the 16th inst. The cruise finishing at the end of January at Gibraltar, the Governor of which, Lord Napier, dined with Sir Stafford and party on board the yacht. Christmas Day will be spent by Sir Stafford at Palermo, and afterwards the yacht will proceed on the cruise to Malta, the cruise finishing at the end of January at Marseilles, when Sir Stafford will return to England. The right hon. gentleman has much benefited by the change and rest."

The funeral of the late Bishop of Llandaff took place at Llandaff on Thursday, the deceased prelate being buried in a grave adjoining that of his son. The funeral procession comprised the mayor and members of the clergy of the diocese, and county gentlemen. The service in the cathedral, which was most impressive, was carried out by Bishop Perry, D.D., Canon Hawkins, Archdeacon Griffiths, and the Rev. E. A. Fishbow. Special hymns were sung, and at the grave the Burial Service was read by the Dean of Llandaff. There was a large attendance of the general public. Nearly all the shops in Cardiff were closed during the afternoon.

The remains of the late Dean Coxe were conveyed, on Thursday, from Penzance to Carlisle.

YULETIDE.

It is difficult to say when Christmas holidays begin; but, as we have already had occasion to tell, all the arrangements for the present recurrence of them are in full swing. London is perhaps unusually full just now for the time of year, which may or may not be due to the exceptionally perfect specimens of winter weather which it at present has to offer. There is no place like London in winter is one of those very numerous statements which were probably never made for the first time. It appears in some just published letters of Queen Anne's time, and although Lord Bathurst who makes it there was a person of good sense and no less an inventor, it is not probable that he did. But fogs can hardly have been so black in Lord Bathurst's time as they are now, and people in those days were certainly not so subject to depression, "depression," and "melancholy," however, are incompatible, at any rate in idea, and there is no reason for talking about depression just now. On Rochefoucauldian principles it is satisfactory to reflect that if Londoners have been made somewhat uncomfortable by fogs, people in Edinburgh have been made more so by frost. Frost is in one way good for holidays, because of its connection with skating; but it produces widespread misery among the poorer classes, and it interferes with every one's comfort in cities, though not in the country. We are not indeed in the days when horses used to bring home postmen frozen to the saddle and dead, with the letters hanging to them, but no one in these days has had a much more miserable experience than the unlucky travellers who were snowed up on a Welsh railway the other day. In London one is not liable to that experience; from frozen pipes, water obtained at so great a cost, and from the street, impassable streets, and frozen-out gardeners, are sufficient evils to most people.

Christmas weather is so closely connected with Christmas holidays that it is difficult not to think of the one in connection with the other. The experience of habitually breakfasting and occasionally lunching by gaslight were not present with most of us. But sunlight fortunately for us is not an inconsiderable portion of mankind is not so much in the habit of breakfasting by gaslight. In the Arctic regions people are supposed to make the time of darkness one of special amusement, probably because they have nothing else to do. That can scarcely be said of most of us. In London, however, the circumstances of modern times are rather in favour of holiday-making in bad weather. To be able to move long distances in tolerable security from sky influences is a considerable advantage, and to have a variety of places to go to, and a variety of amusements, is a great advantage. Every year we are told that pantomime is going to die, and every year it gives unequivocal signs of living a little longer. But also every year its rivals in the theatrical way show more signs of refusing to suffer suspension of animation in its favour. Theatricals are more numerous and greater variety to a larger number of theatre-goers. Every year the national collections of art and science (starved as they are said by grumblers to be) grow richer, more varied, and more interesting. It is not too much to say that it is not easy to see them through the fog. The "old favourites of the public" in the way of entertainments hold their ground for the most part, and plenty of new ones come to take rank beside the old. Indeed, the visitor to London, as to "sights" now is not that there are none, or that they are not varied enough, but that so many other Londoners and visitors to London want to see them that he cannot get a glimpse of them. The places of amusement in London except of the lowest class, and almost every "sight" is crowded within a very short radius from the city. The same area, in fact, does the business done in the day, or nearly the same, sees amusement going on at night, and the enormous fringe of suburb does little but supply actors and spectators to both. Except, however, as far as pantomime is concerned, the places supposed to be specially Christmas may have never been other than domestic. To seek by one's self in one's own house, or to foregather with a tolerably narrow circle of relations and friends in one's own or some body else's, are the typical methods of the Christmas holiday, and, as the case may be, these diversions are in each case tolerably independent of weather. Bad weather decidedly increases the enjoyment of sitting, as perhaps also the tendency to sleep. It has been defined as one of the highest pleasures known to man to walk to the window of a room well fitted with books, to look at people outside in a fog just not bad enough to prevent your seeing them, and then to go back to the fireside and read. This may be an improper way of keeping Christmas in the case of persons with large families, but everybody is not a person with a large family, and even all large families are not given to being boisterously gregarious. Those who are not so given have at least the advantage that they carry the necessary apparatus for the maintenance of their families under their own hat; and those who are so given never have much difficulty in finding others like-minded with them. Both classes are therefore tolerably independent of public provision for their pleasure. But for those who are not so independent, the Christmas and the future New Year will doubtless be at least fairly bountiful in attractions.—*Daily News*.

THE WRECK OF THE "LANGRIG HALL."

THE TERRIBLE STUPIDITY of the ill-fated *Langrig Hall*, which was wrecked on Friday night near the Tuskar, arrived in Liverpool early on Thursday morning. Their names are Simon Muir and James Lees. Muir belongs to Finland, and Lees is a Welshman. Muir, in the following account of the disaster:—"The *Langrig Hall*, 1,361 tons register, left Liverpool on Thursday last at one o'clock for Calcutta, with a cargo of salt. The vessel was loaded to within six inches of the line. There was a crew of 100 men, and a share of the fighting was done by the common 'bounty' crew. Ever since we had left Liverpool the weather was hazy, and there was a good breeze in the south-westerly direction. The tug remained beside us for half an hour until we got all round the Tuskar, and then we were sailing about four knots, until the vessel struck. The captain thought, I suppose, that he would be able to clear the Tuskar, but finding in about half an hour's time that the current was taking us dangerously near the rocks, he endeavoured to alter the ship's course. He had not much sail up at the time, and he ordered the man at the wheel to put the helm hard up. This was done, and the ship went up about five points round; but in a few minutes we struck what are called the 'sicken rocks.' We were struck amidships, and after striking thrice the vessel was found to be fast on the rocks. Most of the men were below, and the captain at once ordered them on deck. I was on deck with eight others, and the captain sang out, 'Get out the four boats.' We were struck amidships, and after striking thrice the vessel was found to be fast on the rocks. Most of the men were below, and the captain at once ordered them on deck. I was on deck with eight others, and the captain sang out, 'Get out the four boats.' 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many, without contemplating any offensive movement, draw more closely together for purposes of mutual defence. This is in harmony with the general policy of the two Empires, and of Prussia especially. It is most probable that Russia will be guided by this opinion, and that her rulers will restrain the forces which are behind them and avoid the Quixotic enterprise of attacking combined Austria and Germany, whatever may be the alliances she may secure or may hope to secure. This much is certain—and the certainty is valuable—that Bismarck has by his agreement with Austria given the Czar and the world to understand that Germany notes and realises the designs of Pan-Slavism in Austria, and further that Germany will make common cause with Austria, and will prohibit and enforce her prohibition, of any encroachment on the territory or rights of Austria. Bismarck occasionally discloses a marvellous frankness. It is not a moral virtue of the man but a virtue of expediency. He exercises it now, and if those concerned will profit by it, the war cloud which unhappily again broods over Europe in the latest hours of the declining year, will in all probability be once more dispersed.

THE MINISTERIAL CHANGES.

It must be left to the gossip of the present and the historian of the future, the *Saturday Review* says, to decide the exact extent to which Lord Derby's now famous speech at Manchester influenced the rearrangement of the Cabinet. But the result of it (or of other things) has been to present the curious spectacle of a Ministry which has been reinforced without being strengthened. Lord Derby has announced himself in the combined character of fifth wheel and drag, and his appointment to the Colonies must be taken as a recognition of the announcement. The expectant Radical wing of the Ministerial party—which sometimes boasts itself to be centre and wing both—has not yet received its share of the good things going by the long-delayed promotion of Sir Charles Dilke. Lord Derby is in so many ways so distasteful to this section of the party that it was doubtless necessary to neutralise his advent, at least in appearance, by the addition of a more democratic politician to the Cabinet. It is unfortunate that no possible promotion can be devised which will not remove Sir Charles Dilke from the office for which he is best fitted. His absence from the Foreign Office would be viewed with some regret by men who have the very smallest sympathy with his general political views. Sir Charles Dilke is, as Mr. Chamberlain is in a less degree, what may be called an Opportunist Jingo. The extension and maintenance of the power and interests of England are horrible in his eyes when they are urged by and for the benefit of Tories; but in themselves he is believed to regard them as harmless, if not directly desirable things. He is thus a counterpoise to Lord Derby in more ways than one, and his views on foreign policy being at least moderately sound, while his views on domestic policy are almost unmitigatedly mischievous, it is a pity that he should be taken from a sphere where he has done some good to one where he may do much harm. Moreover, Sir Charles Dilke stands almost alone among Radicals in having some knowledge of what foreign politics mean. With regard to home policy, no changes of Ministers and no accessions of amphibious politicians (who have proved that they cannot live on the Conservative land, and who do not seem likely to struggle for political existence with more success in the Liberal water) are likely much to affect that. It has long been evident that the Cabinet, whether by choice or from inability to do otherwise, simply exists to carry out Mr. Gladstone's will; and it is not likely that the change from one man to another will bring in the neighbourhood of Downing-street any other will bring any renewal of independence. In foreign affairs it is different, and accident or the adroit management of individuals may alter the political situation to an extent almost incalculable.

THE NEW PRIMATE.

The *Spectator* says:—Dr. Benson has shown most of the qualities which may make his administration of the See of Canterbury a great one. A most able, though a stern, and it is said, even severe headmaster, he has yet shown that to excel his clergy in the diocese he has so lately organized he can be neither stern nor severe, but rather the intimate friend and audacious counsellor of all. As Archbishop, he will stimulate the Church, we trust, to a still higher note of strenuousness and depreciation of all high effort. He must beware, however, of showing the tension of his own moral judgment in his treatment of opponents. We do not in the least fear either want of zeal in Dr. Benson, or want of comprehensiveness towards the various sections of high-minded and religious men. If there be ground for fear at all—as we hope there is not—it is fear only of want of equanimity. The Primate of a great Church should be all sensitiveness to discern where new life is germinating, and where old life is dying away. But sensitivity towards the diocese, whether true or false, he should show none. But one thing we may be sure of in Dr. Benson. He will never underrate the function of the Church of England, or undervalue what she can do at the present moment to promote the religious life of the English people.

The *Saturday Review* says:—He has succeeded to no easy duties or easy post; but in proportion as he shows himself equal to the situation will his usefulness during his lifetime and his fame after. All the omens lead us to hope for the best. Dr. Benson is in the prime of life, vigorous, alert, and laborious, genial, and hopeful, trusted and popular with those who disagree as well as with those who agree with him. His apprenticeship since he became a bishop has been one to show the stuff of which he was made. All who heard and all who have since read Dr. Benson's Congress sermon at Derby last October felt that in him the Church of England possessed a leader who had the secret of no ordinary powers of persuasion and command, though none could guess the use to which the lapse of a few weeks would bid him put them. His, we believe and trust, will be a primacy of originality but not of rashness, of heartiness yet of dignity, of ancient principles and historical experience, moulded and adapted to modern wants and modern perils. At the turning-point of the fortunes of the Church of England such a man may do a work of which the benefit will endure.

CHRISTMAS EVE.

It would doubtless embitter the sweet taste of delight which every well-conducted person experienced on the vigil of Christmas Day to consider that people with a taste for numbers have gone about to show that Christmas cannot have been the day of Christ's birth. The singer probably would be less hot in their mouths when they reflected that travellers of undoubted veracity returning from Judea have told us that December is the month in which, in that country, the maximum amount of rain-fall is usually attained. It is, therefore, unless, indeed, the seasons have greatly altered, hardly the sort of weather a man would choose to camp out at night and feed his flocks and herds in the open. A misty mist would have had the wandering shepherd in the fields of Bethlehem. But, as last year, when Christmas Day fell on a Sunday, an accident which a little dulledd of our rejoicing, we kept it by a sort of *ex-cathedra* decision, and a misty mist would be careless of the actual and precise date of the Nativity, so long as we hallow some day in memory of it, however incorrect. Good Friday and Easter lose nothing of the sacred associations and holy joys bound up with those days, simply because their exact date cannot be determined, as they vary with the rolling years.

Dr. Johnson, though by some strange oversight Good Friday is absent from his great dictionary, would doubtless have identified it with the same caution which he uses in declaring to his readers the size of the East-India Company is not there said to be the day of the resurrection, but only the day on which the Christian Church has chosen to commemorate that festival. But the uncertainty of the date in no degree interfered with the practical piety of this ancient custom, given by the Church his system of abstinence discipline, just as though that day were indeed the very day on which Christ rose. He fasted, as we learn from his biographer, whose reputation is almost as wide as his own, with excellent reason. He took a milk-cow with him to his tent, doubtless from a conviction that milk was animal food. He passed the time in a fit of religious abstraction. He howled in his meditations his sense of his total uselessness, his sensual thoughts, and in a word, his own inferiority to the great men of the world. He regretted in a word the predominance of his appetites over his reason, and although the date of the eve of the birth of Christ is uncertain, we need not hesitate, *mutatis mutandis*, to follow his example.

The keeper of Christmas Eve, and of Christmas Eve, which a nursery rhyme commemorates as the occasion of "my dame" and "my master," being engaged in such multifarious employments, may console himself for his uncertainty, if he need other consolation than the example of Dr. Johnson, and the hope of a good cheer with good reflection, that these two Eves have been fixed at least from the time of St. Augustine. He may leave mathematical calculations, so utterly unbecoming with Christmas merriment, to such as choose to sit in the seat of the scorners when the festivities of Christmas are presented on behalf of "my dame" and "my master," and old numbers of *The Gentleman's Magazine* will supply us with any quantity of Christmas Eve matter. We are hardly likely to be gratified for lack of it, with half a dozen volumes of *Notes and Queries* within our reach. A man need not pump his own way to the bottom of the matter, but a new Encyclopedia, without which the shelves of no gentleman's library are complete. In every county of England some Christmas Eve custom is or was probably at one time existing. That such a custom does not at present stand out so clearly defined on the map of localities, they tell us, is fast tending to make of one language all the nations of the globe.

In Devonshire the Ashton or Ashen foggot was once, perhaps in some retired nook still is, a grand institution. A large crowd of men, women, and children, armed with sticks and stones, set on the kitchen fire. The green strands becoming heated burst with a loud report, and with every report a shower of ashes falls on the hearth, and a quart of cider falls to the lot of the company. As the foggot is usually set on fire at least a dozen green with the consumption of drink is extensive. The consequence, as far as the drinkers are concerned, may be untoward, but it is certainly a capital thing for the cider sellers. In Herefordshire, thirteen firs were commonly lighted, one in the past representing the Virgin Mary, and the rest the twelve disciples. By the time the brightness of the Agostic flame had attained its apogee, cake and posset-ale were customarily introduced, or cider—cider, indeed, either understood in its absolute acceptance, as Wynter set it in his *Chronicle*, or in the more limited meaning of the fermented juice of apples, as it was sung by Phillips—seems to have been invariably a leading constituent of the rites of Christmas Eve. Nor was the celebration of this festival confined to agriculturists. In the reign of Henry VIII. a further instance, cows and bees held fellowship and communion with men in their celebration of religious duties. The cowherd entering the shippen at midnight would be sure to find the kine on their knees, and if he paid on the way he would find a like kneeling posture on the part of the sheep. The year's unaccompanied metrical murmur among the golden inhabitants which peeped those straw-built homes. The cows, startled by his unwonted advent, and already on their knees in the act of rising, were to that rustic, with his imagination enlivened by cider or posset-ale, engaged in the mystery of prayer, while a cow, a large black bird that feeds upon the carcasses of beasts, should have been chosen from among all the feathered denizens of the air, as a church companion, to be taken position in lieu of a prayer-book, into the sacred edifice, is not clear. Nor is the reason of the selection of the cuckoo, which the Norfolk peasant of old put a straw through the nose or mouth of the crow, which he carried into church with him, when our Lady of Walsingham held her divine and special cult in that locality. Occasionally, we are told, a cuckoo was used for a crow. 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